

October 14, 1942

At Conference room

At 2:30 P.M.

Special Session: Discussion Sugarbeet Labor Problem

1. Acting Chairman Mr. Nagumo and 16 committee members present. Absentees were Mr. Hayashida, and Mr. Hara.
2. Conference started at 2:30 P.M. with Messrs. Pierson, president of the First National Bank at Lovell; Smith, manager of the Great Western Sugar Beet Company at Lovell; Macford; and Housel, regional attorney from Denver office of W.M.A.
3. Contents of Mr. Pierson's speech:
 - a. Time for harvesting of beets before freezing season sets in is on November 1 to November 7.
 - b. Asserting opinions on present farming situation, such as:
 - (a) Helping National Emergency in the line of agriculture
 - (b) releasing labor shortage problem
 - c. Explanations of local farming situations:
 - (a) All business closed till 1:00 P.M.
 - (b) High school closed till October 13
 - (c) Necessity of supplying sugar for 1,250,000 people in U.S.A.
 - (d) Shortage of 300 men at Lovell, 30 miles south from the center
 - d. Term of work: 3 weeks
 - e. Plea for the center Japanese cooperation in the matter
4. Chairman Nagumo explained the circumstances of the resident Japanese in the center with respect to the labor problem; however he expressed the Japanese willingness to cope with National emergency by their cooperations in this matter.
5. Mr. Koide assured that the Block Chairman Committee will devote into the furnishing of the Japanese workers to release the labor shortage with utmost effort and pointed out a few examples of the Japanese in their eager willingness to cooperate with sugar beet farmers both in the center as well as on the field. He also pointed out a few difficulties in the matter; namely, a slight problem of ourselves and necessity of replacing women so as to release men for outgoing.
- e. Mr. Smith furnished following information:
 - (a) Availability of E-C.C.C. camps at Lovell to accommodate 300 men.
 - (b) Living facilities to be furnished by farmers
 - (c) At present 200 Japanese in the locality
 - (d) Principal labor: Topping and piling, no loading
 - (e) Wages: Highest wages set by the secretary of Agriculture, \$1.05 per ton for the first 12 tons, then \$.95 for successive tons.
 - (f) Supply topping knives
 - (g) Decision of whether to stay or make daily trips rests upon workers themselves
 - (h) Annual average production lower this year; hence, over-estimation of production on the part of farmers causing misunderstanding on the part of residents. Estimation done in August, this year.
 - (i) Larger acreage this year
 - (j) Average dirt per ton to be approximately 4/10
 - (k) Girls working from 8:30 A.M.-4:00 P.M., averaging 2-2½ tons a day

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(2) At Conference Room At 2:30 P.M.

(1) People in Wyoming very hospitable

7. Discussion followed as to devices or relief relief measures after the departure of Messrs. Bachford, Ho sel, Pierson, and Smith.

(a) Availability of men who at present are off work such as part of carpenters, proposed by Mr. Jujioke.

(b) recruit unnecessary workers in various offices, proposed by Mr. Koide and Mr. Kakuuchi.

(c) Recommendation of replacement women to men to release men for outside works.

(d) Recruiting to be done by the office of Employment; thus relieving the Chairmen Committee of direct responsibility.

(e) Disadvantages voiced by Mr. Nagumo in sugarbeet work:

1) Insufficiency in the amount of work; 3-4 tons per day

2) Lack of proper foods for the Japanese such as; rice, shoyu, miso, etc.

3) Overhead expenses

4) Probable inadequate accommodating facilities

8. Meeting adjourned at 3:50 P.M.