

December 11, 1942  
Friday

At 12-26 S.

9:30 A.M.

Absentees: Messrs. Hara, Kakuuchi, Gorai, and Koide.

1. Reports on JACL Conference by Mr. H. Mitarai:

JACL sponsored the Conference. Main subject was on how to resettle the Japanese evacuees in various centers to communities. Mr. Mitarai attributed the cause of mass evacuation not to JACL but to the political motive such as anti-Japanese propaganda. And since it is still the general sentiment of the American against the Japanese colony or concentration in one community the policy of resettlement will be in dispersion of evacuees to all over the country outside of excluded areas, although WRA and the War Dept. had sorely realized their mistake in confining a large man-power of more than 112,000 at the time when it is most eagerly sought of. Now in order to relocate as many Japanese as the WRA program of resettlement can accord, WRA, War Dept., and various church groups are issuing pro-Japanese evacuee propaganda by means of radio, conventions, newspaper, and movies. With the assistance and cooperation of JACL, the WRA authorities are endeavoring in paving the way for the evacuee resettlement in various professional and vocational fields. In an effort to further assist the Japanese to get a right start the Government will provide a government loan at a low rate of interest, and also WRA will promote the private loans through its backing; however, there will be no Government subsidy for evacuees' loss of personal assets due to the evacuation and for the financial guarantees after the relocation.

As to the Selective Service status of nisei, it had not been discussed directly and formally with Mr. Myer. The nisei have been classified to 4-C and 4-F (friendly enemy). This question was brought up among the delegates of various centers and JACL officials with the opinion of possible condemnation of general American public after the war against nisei as being disloyal to the country in relation to citizens in the Selective Service, forgetting that niseis have been classified involuntarily to 4-C and 4-F thus giving nisei no opportunity to prove their loyalty directly in the field of battle. With such condemnation it may become the American sentiment to voice the deprivation of citizenship from nisei. However it was the opinion of Mr. Myer that the War Dept. and the Navy Dept. will take into consideration of such status of the evacuated nisei.

Mr. Mitarai expressed some personal opinions or impressions in the policy of resettlement and in the inspection of outside life of the Japanese. He keenly felt the difference in morale as such that he was obliged to admit the degradation of his morale as well as that of center residents. He felt that, compared to the free Japanese, the minds of evacuees in the centers had become noticeably feeble and depleted. The free Japanese are bearing their subsistence by self-support. Mr. Myer and Mr. Fisher, Friend Committee, had expressed their acknowledgment to the fact of degradation of evacuees' morale

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to the fact of degradation of evacuees' morale and the mistake in evacuating the Japanese from the coast.

As to the possibility of returning to the coast, Mr. Myer said that that entirely depends how evacuees take from now on.

2. Farewell Party for Mr. Machford:

Mr. Nagata reported that Mr. Machford will leave the center on Tuesday and that BAO and other administrative bodies will have a farewell party for Mr. Machford and requested Chairmen's Council to join. The Council agreed and Mr. G. T. Ishikawa was assigned to make arrangement with BAO and others as to time and place today.

3. Recreation Conference:

A memorandum was issued to the Council by Mr. Barber as to time and place of the Conference; at 2:00 P.M., THURS., December 17, at Administration Recreation Hall. Mr. Barber requested that our speaker from the council and two delegates from each block be selected as representatives in the Conference.

4. Letter of Appreciation:

Mr. Koide and Sec'y Iwamoto were assigned by the Council to write a letter of appreciation to Mr. Machford for his past services.

5. Fire Emergency Exit:

Recommendation by Fire Chief to Mr. Barber for installation of emergency exit in case of fire was approved and signed by the block Chairmen.

6. WCCA Clothing Allowances:

Sec'y Iwamoto was assigned by the Council to submit another petition in the matter.

7. Inspection Tour:

Mr. Minata proposed to request approval on Chairmen's inspection tour to local communities at WMA's expenses. The proposal was rested for further discussion.

8. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 A.M.