

December 28, 1942
Monday

At 12-26-S

At 9:30 A.M.

Absentees: None

1. Fire Problems: Mr. Tom Yahiro, Fire Chief.

Fire Department objects residents to use garden hoses for any other purposes other than fire extinguishing. Mr. Matsui, Police Chief, recommended a sign "FOR FIRE ONLY" on every hose rack be requisitioned by the Fire Dept. so that the Police Dept. can enforce the regulation. Mr. Yahiro requested Block Chairmen to prohibit erecting ice skating rink around laundry and mess buildings and between barracks, but if rinks were erected at the lost adjoining recreation halls the Fire Dept. will send a man to take charge of fire hydrants to pour in water. Mr. Yahiro further requested that notification be submitted to the Fire Dept. and the Police Dept. the day before the scheduled program when there is any large gathering to be conducted. Another request was that Block Chairmen order respective block carpenters to bore a vestibule above each entrance of barrack so as to be able to make inspection on electric wiring and around stove chimneys to prevent fire hazards.

2. Police Problems: Mr. Matsui, Police Chief.

Mr. Matsui explained the policing situation and requested Block Chairmen to cooperate with the Dept. in taking charge of children's welfare. He printed out that such activities as thief, gambling, rape, drunkenness are going on among younger generation ~~the~~ heroic deeds. At present though most of the hoodlum's rampancy has subdued under Police control it is still apparent some minor group still needs severe attention. There are about three major gang groups; namely, Excelsior, Nine-Drapes, and Royal Aces. Common thing about the gangs is that none of them is working. Age limit ranges from 16 to 19. Mr. Matsui recommended that all members of family should eat together at every meal. As to dances, in order to avoid stag hoodlums admissions should ~~eat~~ be limited to couples.

3. New Year's Day Meals:

Mr. Matsushige's proposal of requesting the New Year's Day off for all work divisions, except mess hall, passed without objection. Mr. Kaneko's proposal of 2 meals on the same day passed.

4. Joint Session of Judicial Body, Block Chairmen and BAO was called for the Judicial Body at 2:00 P.M. today. The Council decided to attend.

5. General Meeting of Block Agricultural Committee:

Mr. Hartman, Chief War Works, requested to call a meeting of Agriculture Committee at 9:30 A.M., 12:00 P.M., Tuesday, Dec. 29; at E-17-25 for representatives from Blocks 1, 2, 6, 8, 9, 12, 17, 20, 27. For Wednesday, Blocks 14, 15, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30. At the same time and same place. *(Meeting adjourned at noon)*

BLOCK CHAIRMEN 'S MEETING

December 28, 1942

10:00 P.M.

A discussion took place on the following problems. As the result we are requesting the Administration please take into consideration:

1. Day-Off for all work divisions except mess hall on New Year's Day.
2. Two meals on the New Year's Day. Have Mr. Haller mimeograph or announce notice to mess halls.

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At Court House

AM 2:30 P.M.

The Joint Meeting of Block Chairmen, BAO, and the Judicial Commission was called by the latter. Mr. Tsunokai, Sr., Judicial Commissioner, presided. Those present were 11 from Block Chairmen, 12 from BAO, and 7 Judicial Body members.

Mr. Tsunokai explained the objectives of the session in two parts; namely, first:

1. Public morality.
2. Rampancy and intimidation of hoodlums.
3. Thought problem and secondly, the problem of Legal Aid Department.

As to the first part, Mr. Tsunokai explained the lack or inefficiency of police authority being the basic cause for not thoroughgoing enforcement of law and order. He also depicted how younger generation has been heading for demoralization or even mental disintegration due to intimidation of few hoodlums over which the police seem to have no authority. Finally, Mr. Tsunokai pointed out the necessity of every division, Block Chairmen, BAO, Judicial Body, and Police Department to coordinate and assist each other in bringing about a stronger enforcement of law and order.

Mr. Mineta put a question to the Judicial Body as to the proper measure by which thorough enforcement of police authority can be attained. With the permission of the chairman, Mr. Doi pointed out the means as follows:

1. Plain-clothes men--detectives, 8-10.
2. Judoists on force.
3. Club stick to be carried along by the police.
4. Quantity and quality of the force.
 1. Physical examination.
 2. Age limit.
5. Voice of the people to back up the Judicial Body and the Police Department. As to the latter, Mr. Doi emphasized that the voice of the people is represented by the Block Chairmen; hence, it is the Temporary Council which is in the position to make sets of police rules and regulations (clearly define) by which residents must abide until the permanent set up of Community Council, and that such rules and regulations clearly define crimes in two categories; felony and misdemeanor. Mr. Hisatomi supplemented that imposition of penalty must be entered for every crime and misdemeanor.

Mr. Matsui, Police Chief, was called into the conference (4:00 P.M.) as suggestion of his presence was moved by Mr. H. Yamamoto. Mr. Matsui explained that in order to maintain ideal peace and order, the Police Dept. needs 106 members in the force which include 6 detectives. These men are on duty in 4 shifts a day, 25 persons per shift. The Police Chief was in agreement of setting up rules and regulations by Council as proposed by Mr. Doi.

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In response to question put by Mr. Doi whether or not the Police Dept. wants to prosecute cases, Mr. Matsui's answer was in the affirmative.

As to the necessity of having a strong and efficient prosecuting attorney, Mr. Doi requested the meeting to select a better and qualified person. Mr. Tomo suggested the name of Mr. Housel for the position, but in consideration of having a Caucasian staff in the Judicial Commission under the evacuee government Mr. Housel was not quite suitable; besides, Mr. Doi expressed, Mr. Housel would not accept the position as D.A. Mr. Bill Yamamoto suggested Mr. Doi take over as D.A. and let one of the commissioners be the Chief of Justice. Mr. Doi, in turn, recommended Mr. Min Yonemura. Majority was in agreement as Mr. Doi stressed that little knowledge of law would be sufficient, and the judge will lead the prosecution so experience is not necessary.

Mr. Tsunokai, Sr., adjourned the session at 4:45 P.M.
No resolution was made in this session.