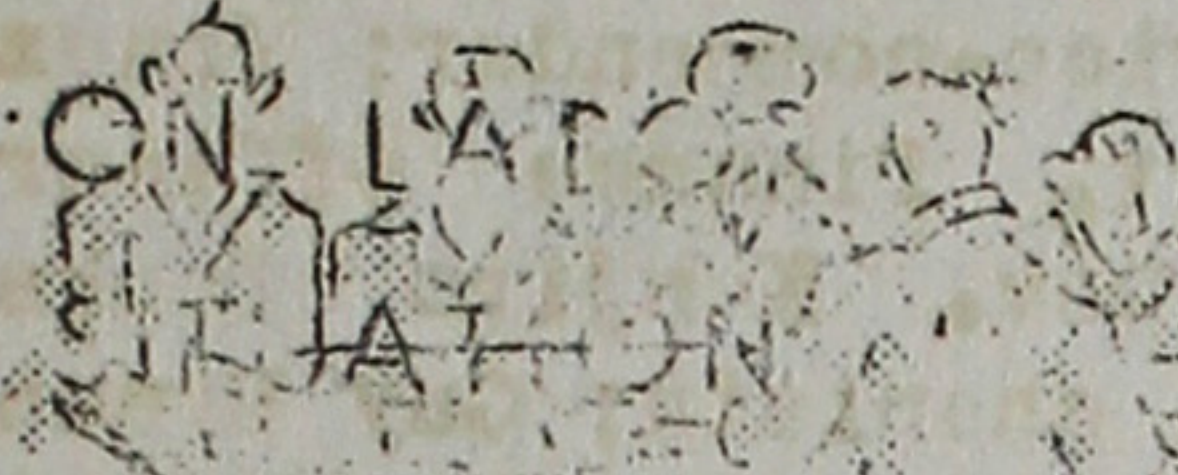


Vol. 1, No. 2 TOPAZ TIMES October 28, 1942

# THE CITY: TOPAZ LACKS 150 MAINTENANCE WORKERS

## COUNCIL MEETS



To discuss the labor shortage now faced by the City, the Community Council met Monday night at Rec II with James F. Hughes, assistant project director; Claude C. Cornwall, and James Jemmes, of the Employment Division; and Lorne Bell, chief of the Community Services Division.

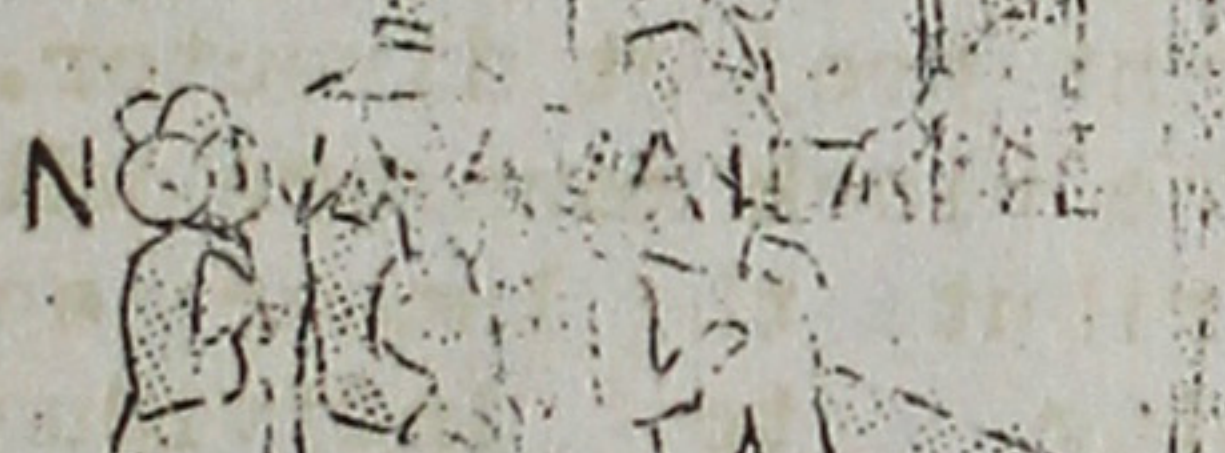
It was brought out at this meeting that the present maintenance personnel of 250 is far below the minimum of 400 required to perform services vital to the welfare of the City. The Council's labor committee agreed to make a thorough investigation of the situation.

Earlier in the day, at a Council meeting held at the City Hall, a suggestion was made that a community fund be set up to receive contributions from residents who are commuting to outside work and residents receiving WRA wages of more than \$16 monthly. This would mean that those receiving \$19 would contribute the \$3 difference to this fund.

At this afternoon meeting, also, a committee was formed to draft a constitution for the City government. Members named to the body were Mas Maruyama, Shig Kosakura, James Nishimura and Vernon Ichisaka.

As another point of business, a food committee was appointed to look into the matter of food shortage in the dining halls.

## FIRST PAYCHECKS



The first Topaz paychecks, covering September, are now being distributed at the north entrance of the old Post Office Building, it was announced today by the Administrative Division.

Distribution hours will be from 8 AM to 12 noon and 1 to 5 PM. Also, those who are employed during the day may call for their checks between 6 and 9 PM on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, the announcement said.

The checks, 1700 in number, amount to approximately \$7600.

## PLANT NURSERY



Now under construction is a nursery for the propagation of vegetables and landscape plants at a 10-acre site adjacent to the southwestern edge of the Recreation Field. Forty hot beds, each 50' long and 3' wide, are being dug by a resident crew of 15 men working under the Agricultural Division.

Expected to be completed and in operation by the end of November, the nursery will have, in addition to the beds, two transplanting fields, 400' x 400' each, and a garden house for the storage of equipment, seeds.

The bottom of a typical hot bed is to be lined with 1 foot of gravel, over which about 2 feet of Manure to provide heat will be laid. The top soil of earth will be from 6 to 8 inches deep.

A wooden enclosure with a lath-type roof will serve as a wind-breaker over each hot bed. If low temperatures threaten the plants, cello-glass super-coverings will be placed over the enclosures.

## Bed Time

If this labor shortage situation seems to be all over the paper today, it's because our newsmen have been bumping into it all day. In fact, when one of them went out for the details of Monday night's meeting, he learned that a number of councilmen had gone to Delta to help unload Topaz's coal. A number of black managers, too, have contributed to this cause.

So this, then, becomes the follow-up item to yesterday's report on the arrival of coal. And according to today's lead story, the entire labor situation is going to be studied by the Council.

**ZOMBIE SHIFT:** Speaking of labor, with the mimeograph available, for the most part, only in the evenings, it's been necessary to maintain a "zombie" shift to keep the Times rolling. This has been done from the very start of the paper, and it's still so.

Miss O'abo, the artist, gave this shift its name, and she has been a regular member of it. It's a shift that starts after supper and is apt to continue till breakfast, with a repast of toast in the middle. The toast, of course, has apple butter on it.

Most all of the Times art work was being done by Mine until Yuri Sugihara was able to come to help out. Now, the bulk of the art work for the daily is in Yuri's hands, while Mine looks to her zombie shift.

And what with the zombie shift, the start of regular publication and the current need for participating in sheetrock work, the staff is well-rushed, to put it simply and mildly.

## NEW POST OFFICE OPENS



Located next to the Fire Station, the new Topaz Post Office building was opened Monday morning, with William Willoughby, postal clerk, in charge.

According to Willoughby, the new Post Office will handle COD packages, money orders, stamps, registered and insured mails and packages. The hours (temporarily) will be from 8:30 AM to noon and 1 to 4:30 PM on weekdays, 8:30 AM to noon on Saturdays; and it will be closed on Sundays. So that mail may be deposited at any time, the front lobby of the PO will always be open.

The resident personnel under Hideo Iyeki, who work for the WRA, will remain in the old building until further notice. This group will sort and distribute all incoming mail and work on dead-letters.

**NOTICES:** Iyeki pointed out that there is no air-mail service between Topaz and Salt Lake City.

Sears, Roebuck and Co. in Los Angeles sent the following self-explanatory letter to Willoughby: "Because of Topaz being a branch of the Delta postoffice, some of our customers at Topaz are showing both Delta and Topaz on orders. It would be helpful if only Topaz were shown on orders and correspondence, it being unnecessary to show Delta."

Montgomery Ward in Oakland has sent notices to its customers in Topaz stating that the City is located in the territory served by the order house in Denver, Colo. All orders sent to Oakland have been referred to the Denver house.

## CO-OP TO SELL CLOTHES



The Topaz Consumer Cooperative Association has received its first sample order of clothing and will place the articles on sale within a few days, it was announced today.

The articles that will be available are: boys' polo shirts, coats, shirts, and nightwear; ladies', misses' and infants' hose; misses and children's anklets; campus and athletic sox, half hose; and men's jeans, overalls, shoes, work shirts, collar shirts, underwear, shorts and work gloves.

Two new members, H. Muronaka and T. Katase, have joined the staff of the education department, it was also revealed by the Cooperative. The duties of this department include public relations and distribution of information.

The membership drive will be completed by next week for the Topaz Cooperative. The eligible list of those over 16 years of age consists of 5,756 residents.

Circular letters were distributed to the residents Tuesday, urging them to join the Cooperative.

Changes in cooperative enterprise offices were announced as follows: laundry service and Sears order desk from the cooperative store to Rec 12. The newly created service department, as well as the barber shop which was opened several weeks ago, are also in Rec 12.

## FLAG CEREMONY HELD



With resident legionnaires and administrative officials in attendance, a simple flag raising ceremony was held in front of the Army flag post at 8 AM Monday morning.

The following legionnaires were present: Saburo Abo, Keishi Adachi, M. Ogawa, Yajiro Okamoto, Keizo Matsumori, Saburo Matsumoto, the Rev. Kenjiro Tsukamoto, Kaytaro Tsukamoto, Jiro Shiraki, Guy Uyama, Kana Uehara and Yonezo Suzuki.

## Briefs and Bulletins

**ELECTION:** Topaz legionnaires elected Kay Tsukamoto as their president at their first meeting, held Sunday afternoon from 1:30 PM at the barber shop.

Elected with Tsukamoto were M. Ogawa, vice-commander; Saburo Matsumoto, 2nd vice-commander; Yonezo Suzuki, finance officer; the Rev. Kenjiro Tsukamoto, chaplain; Guy Uyama, historian; Keishi Adachi, sergeant-at-arms.

Twelve legionnaires were present at this meeting.

**GIRLS WANTED:** Request has been received by the Employment Division for at least 20 more girls to pick turkey feathers at the Pulley Packing Plant at American Fork, Utah.

Many girls from Topaz are already employed at this plant.

Those interested were asked to call immediately at the Placement Office.

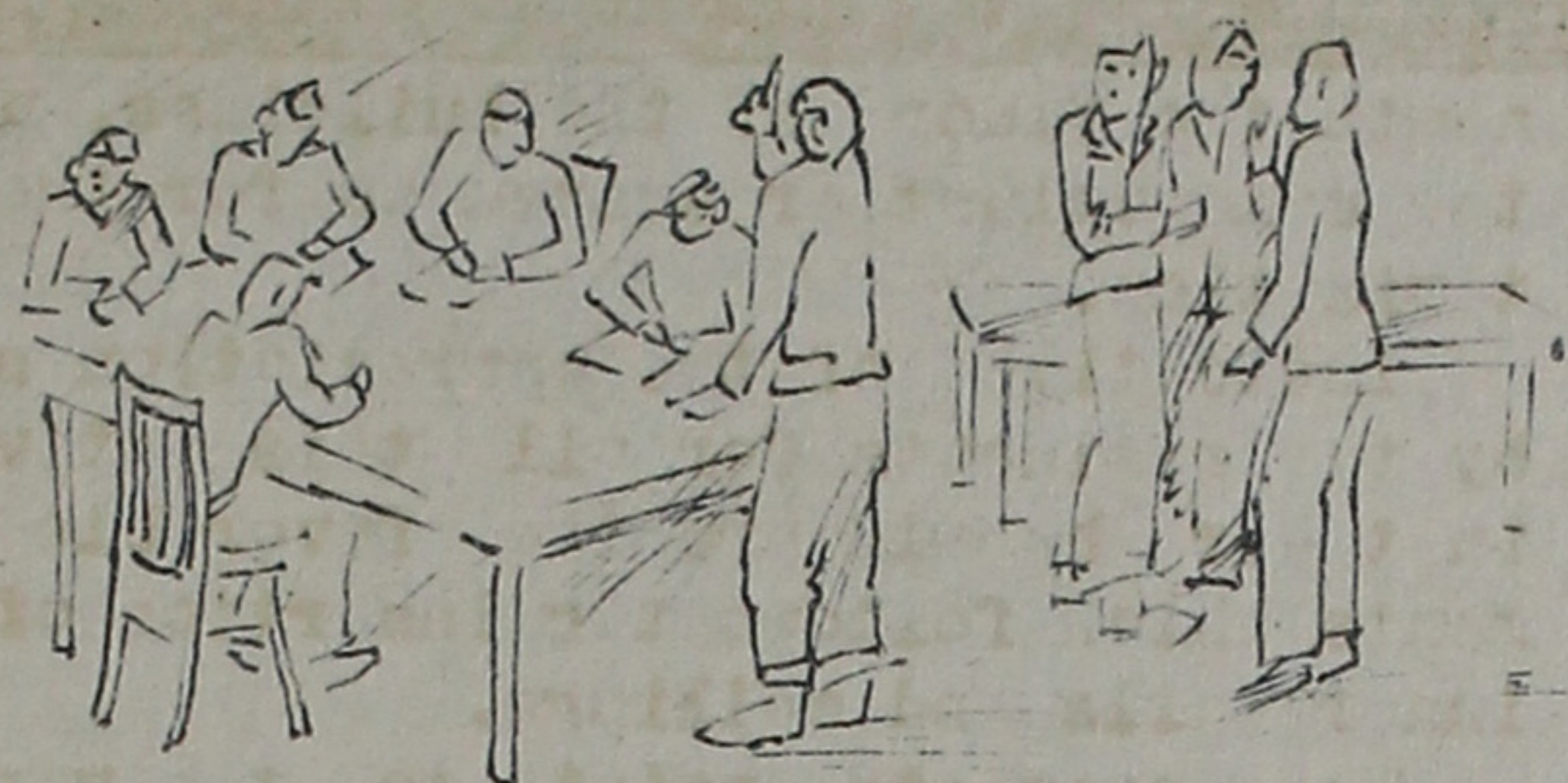
**LUMBER:** Distribution of one truckload of scrap lumber to each block, the first of several scheduled is now in process, according to James F. Hughes, assistant project director.

The block managers will distribute the lumber according to individual needs of residents.

Harry Hoshi is in charge of the distribution. A crew of 25 is now segregating the lumber and kindling for the purpose.

**STORAGE:** Removal of government-stored property will begin shortly, it was indicated today by the Administration. The block managers will collect one of the 2 receipts issued to each person storing property with the government. These will be sent to the Federal Reserve Bank, together with the request that such property be sent here.

In order to claim his property, the resident must bring his second slip. The removal of property in private storage is still under consideration.



By Victor Abe

**PRIVILEGE:** Freedom in a relocation project is a right to be treasured and preserved. Along with independence in religious belief, the privilege of self-government is a cardinal freedom.

Though not absolute, self-government in Topaz is an invaluable means of expressing opinions and preserving the dignity of the individual. As a matter of fact, it may be stated that there is more freedom in government in the relocation projects than the residents had in their former communities. The non-Citizen has been given the right to vote as well as the citizen. The citizen has been given the opportunity to run for public office.

**FORMATION:** And therefore in accordance with national WRA regulations, Project Director Ernst has authorized the formation of the Community Government Section under the Community Services Division, to institute proceedings for self-government.

Provisional Section Head Bob Iki and his staff have aided the residents in electing representatives to the Community Council from their respective blocks by having nomination committees elected or appointed and then informing such committees of the election procedure.



Twenty-five councilmen have been elected at this date, and election proceedings are under way in blocks 4, 29, 33, 34, 35 and 40. The status of blocks 41 and 8 is being clarified. Since residents occupy only half of these blocks, the other half being utilized for education buildings, it is believed that one councilman will represent two blocks.

The following councilmen have assumed office: Vernon Ichisaka, Block 3; Albert Kosakura, 5; Ernest Iiyama, 6; Ray Nishida, 7; Harry Konda, 9; James Hirabayashi, 10; Mas Sakakihara, 11; Dr. Carl Hirota, 12; Sam Yegyu, 13; Shinji Yamamoto, 14; Paul Fujii, 16; Harry Tawa, 19; Tichi Sato, 20; Clarke Parada, 22; Dr. George Ochikubo, 23; John Iwatsu, 26; George Hoshida, 27; Shiro Shibata, 28; Saiki Muneno, 30; James Nishimura, 31; Tsune Baba, 36; Masato Maruyama, 37; George Hagiwara, 38; Iwao Shimizu, 39; and George Ikeda, 42. Dr. Hirota and

Iiyama are chairman and secretary, respectively, of the Council.

As the representative body of Topaz, the Community Council meets regularly every Monday from 1 to 5 PM to cope with the immediate problems on hand, but its fundamental purpose and goal is to initiate and complete the permanent government of Topaz and in conjunction with this, the formation of the City charter.



**CHARTER:** It is corresponding with Tule Lake and Manzanar, 2 centers which have already established charters, to derive ideas for the Topaz charter. Following the ratification of this charter by the people, another election will be held in accordance with charter stipulations. The resulting organization will constitute the permanent government of Topaz.

In its work, the Council is assisted by the Community Government staff of 7 members--Robert Iki, Shigeru Yamamoto, Victor Abe, Misao Tsubokura, Evelyn Nabeshima, Chiyo Fujino and Irvin Hirabayashi.

**PERSONNEL:** More members will be added to the personnel as the functions of the Council increase and needs of the community arise. Increasing responsibilities are leading to more duties, resulting in the need for more workers to expedite governmental affairs.

Another function of the Community Government staff is to aid the residents in any governmental matter. An example is the privilege of absentee voting. The staff had application forms mimeographed and distributed to voters. Negotiations are also underway to bring a Millard County deputy clerk here.



Minutes of the Council meetings are translated into Japanese by the staff members. Both English and Japanese versions are mimeographed and posted in each block.

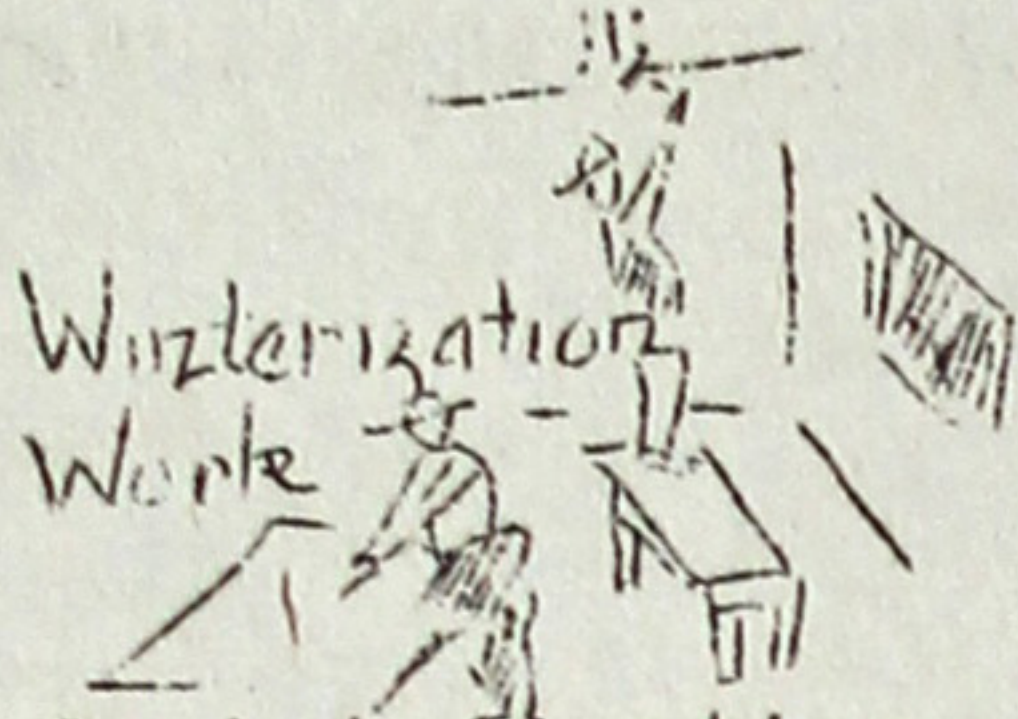
The staff also furnishes general information and advice regarding the penal and civil codes of this state. In addition, it is compiling a reference library of Utah statutes and regulations in 41-2-CD, designated as the temporary City Hall of Topaz.

Thus, the Community Government Section is attempting to expedite the formation of a normal city in Topaz. And it is aided in no small matter by the essence of perfect government--representation without taxation.

## Introduction

The Back Page, to appear about once a week, is to be turned over to the staff for editorial comments and columns. Also, the page will be open to letters and other contributions from the readers.

All contributions should be addressed to The Topaz Times.



Representing the type of community spirit worthy of mention, 600 residents are now occupied in the task of winterization for the entire city of Topaz. Many of these workers are employed at dining halls and as safety wardens and firemen, but still find time to assist fellow residents in this major project.

Headed by George Shimamoto, general superintendent for the Maintenance and Operations Division, mass winterization of Topaz began on Oct. 11.

Previously, a resident crew of 30 began on Block 2. However, the rate of completion was not fast enough to cover the entire Project before winter. An appeal was dispatched to the block managers, asking their assistance in solving the problem. Thus, the plan to utilize the labor supply of the entire City was born.

In the meanwhile, the original resident crew of 30 completed Block 2 and began winterization of Block 4, due to the hospital cases residing there.

Block managers organized crews in their respective areas, contacting both workers and non-workers. Work orders were secured for those employed on a full-time basis. About 300 are on the payroll. The remainder are volunteers whose number varies, but swells over the weekend.

The south side consisting of the area from Blocks 36 and 39 was the first to begin winterization. Blocks 36 and 37 are expected to be completed within the next few days. As of Oct. 25, 40 per cent of the Project was completed. The entire Project is expected to be finished by the first week of November.

An average of 10 persons are now working in each block. A gang of from 3 to 4 men can complete a room in one day, cutting to the minimum the amount of inconvenience caused to each family. A foreman sees to the supply material and is otherwise responsible for smooth operations.

Especially commendable is the cooperative attitude of the block managers who have given freely of time and services. Most of them are acting as timekeepers and as liaison between the Maintenance Division and workers.

As its next major project, the Maintenance Division will undertake the screening or skirting of the space under-

neath the floor of the buildings, using the same volunteer system as for the winterization.

Indicative of the appreciation shown by the residents for all this activity in their behalf are the favorable comments which follows the insertion of the inner walls and ceilings.

The comments point to the warmth, quiet and privacy of the new surroundings. As S. Takashita, 16-7-A, puts it: "We can save one blanket in our bedding"

So now, through the joint efforts of all, housewives are able to set up shelves, drapes and other decorations dear to feminine hearts and make homes for the up-and-coming generations of Topaz.

-Evelyn Kirimura

## Need for Workers

With an increasing number of workers finding outside employment, the Maintenance and Operations Division is faced with a dire need for laborers to undertake the duties so necessary for the welfare of the community.

The present personnel amounts to 250, while the minimum number needed is 400. With this discrepancy in figures, it can be seen that many are taking on double duties or are forced to neglect other vital work.

An appeal has already been broadcast to the community-at-large for workers to meet this emergency. Another appeal is addressed to the civic-minded residents to do all within their power to alleviate this situation.

The Maintenance Division heads such departments as sanitation, the construction of office and school equipment, a glazers department to take care of all broken windows, and others.

The entire Division cooperated in installing stoves throughout the City. To the Maintenance Division can be credited such vital workers as the boiler men who insure a hot water supply to every block, the electricians, plumbers, and innumerable others.

Regarding the need for workers, James F. Hughes, assistant project director, said today: "There is a suitable job for everyone; there is a need for every available worker."

Hughes pointed out that besides the cash allowances of \$16 and \$19, workers and their dependents will receive clothing by means of certificates which will be honored at the Topaz cooperative Store. In addition to the regular clothing allowances, such workers as dining hall and hospital personnel will receive uniforms. Clothing, such as outdoor wear consisting of boots, etc., is also planned for workers in need of special consideration.

The call for workers is now out; now it will remain for the civic-minded to answer the appeal.

-EKK

# 公報

一九四二・一〇・二七  
事務局発表

## 市民権無き日本人の

### 當市訪問禁止令

本日西部防衛司令本部よりの命令に依り、市民権無き日本人はリロケイシヨンの地域一哩以内に入ることとを禁止せしめる事となり、同命令は直ちに施行された。

日本人が同命令を知らずに禁止区に入つた場合、最初は許されるが、二度自からは拘刑せしめる事となつてゐる。

### 今回制定される境界線の規則

に關し、工兵副所長は次の如く語つた。

境界線が確定次第、市内在住者は、日出から日没までの間、住宅区域から外のリロケイシヨン地域境界線までは許可なく自由に行く事は出来ず、目下陸軍に依りて工兵中隊の境界線には六ヶ所のゲイトが設けられ、正門は下ミストレイシヨンの筋に在り、憲兵隊本部の近くと二ヶ所、西北方の角に運送車の出入するゲイトが、東南、西南と各一つ宛補助門が設けられる。

これらのゲイトは今日未だ完成する豫定であり、在住者以外は出の際必ずこれらのゲイトを通過せねばならぬ。

ゲイト通過のため六才以上の者は證明書を發給する事となつてゐる。

## △所有物取寄せ

聯邦準備銀行の管理下に置かれ、此の間に倉庫内の轉住日本人の所有物は、近く當地に取寄せせる事となり、政府より發行せしめた一枚の領收書のうち一枚をアロク・マニヤに渡し、これを經て聯邦銀行に請求する。

政府倉庫以外の個人の所有物取寄せは、就中目下考慮中である。W.R.A.の方針は中央倉庫にもものを借入れて其處に一時的に轉住者の所有物を取まとめ、その後各轉住所に送る計画である。

## △壁板張り

住民のインテリヤ労働者に行はせられて行はせらるる壁板張り工事は、在六百人が就働して居り、来月初旬には完成の豫定である。材料は十分にあり、又、工費は自由に入手出来る。この事業は建築業者の契約に合はせて居らず、在住者中二百五十人の職人が行ふ豫定であり、寒氣に備へるため、出来る限り急速にこれを完成せんとし、有志を募り工事を急ぎて居る。此の工事は、

## △村木の配給

村木の配給は第一回として各ブロック一位のトマツクを公平に配給する事とし、アロク・マニヤがこれを適當に分配する。