

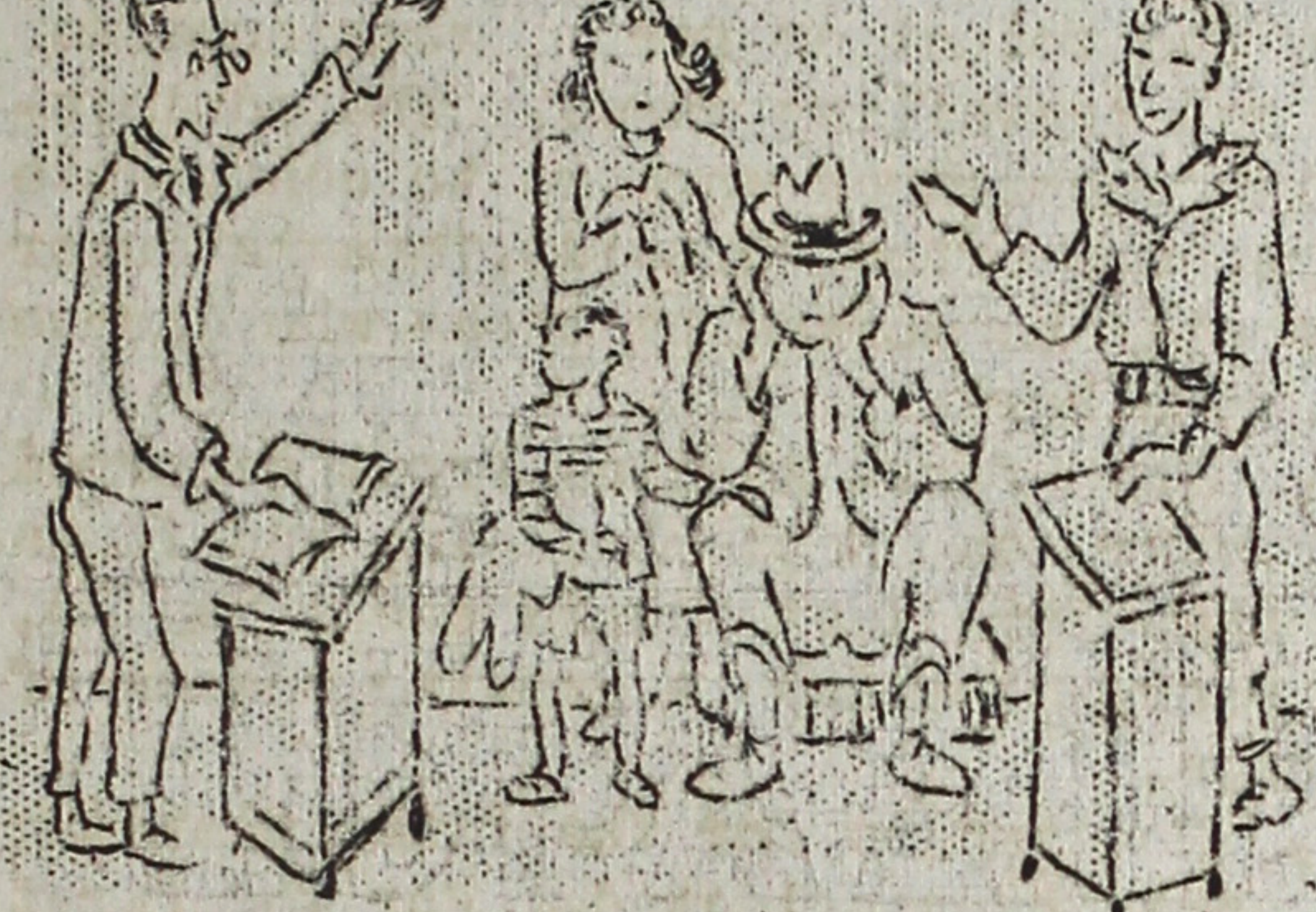


Pre-issue No. 7 Topaz, Utah October 14, 1942

HOUSING FOR SCHOOLS DISCUSSED BEFORE FIRST PUBLIC HEARING

Topaz's Community Council held its first public hearing last Saturday night at Dining Hall 11 on problems confronting the housing and education departments with Dr. Carl Hirota, council chairman, presiding.

The first speaker of the evening, Dr. John C. Carlisle, superintendent of education, stressed the need for opening the elementary and high schools this month--preferably by Oct. 10--if Utah's requirement of a nine-month school year is to be satisfied by next July. Pending the construction of school buildings, Dr. Carlisle proposed that all of Block 32 be allocated to the high school and 28 schoolrooms in the 4 blocks and adjacent to the corners of the high school construction site be used for elementary classes.



Following Dr. Carlisle, Marii Kyogoku of the housing committee disclosed by a series of graphs that, while sufficient housing space for elementary classes was available, partitions would have to be built in B and E size apartments in other sections of the community to accommodate small family units before such space could be centralized for school use. These small family units are at present occupying buildings in the area desired for elementary classes.

In opposition to both these suggestions, S. Akashi of the Educational Congress proposed a plan to utilize

The Council recommended Monday night that half of Block 8 and half of Block 41 be allocated to the elementary school, and all of Block 32 to the high school. Dr. John C. Carlisle declared that the Education Department would abide by any decision made by the Council.

The Council made this recommendation after being assured by the Housing Section that these provisions can be made for education and at the same time housing requirements of the residents can be met satisfactorily.

It was also proposed that transportation be provided for school children during the winter.

the existing 16 rec halls for elementary classes, urging that housing and educational requirements come before recreation at the present time. Kimio Obata of the Community Activities Section, however, countered this proposal by pointing out that the coming of winter would create a vital need for the use of rec halls by both adults and children, since recreation would be virtually impossible in crowded residential quarters.

Another suggestion was made by Bill Sasagawa of the engineering department, who urged that the elementary

(Continued on Page 4)

LAST CONTINGENT

Tanforan's worker contingent of 300 will arrive in the City tomorrow morning, after a 4 days postponement of its departure.

The group did not leave on Oct. 9 as scheduled because the clean-up work had not been completed, according to word received by the project administration.

The final contingent left Tanforan at 3 PM, Oct. 13, terminating the transfer of evacuees from the assembly center to the City.

SHEET ROCK



Resident quarters are being fixed with sheetrock walls and ceilings, George Shimamoto, general superintendent, revealed today.

Work was begun on Wednesday, Oct. 7, by 50 resident carpenters in Block 4 where hospital cases are located. After Block 4 the crew will fix and "winterize" other emergency cases.

Meanwhile, in cooperation with block managers and volunteer workers, Shimamoto plans work from Sunday on Blocks 36, 37, 38, and 39, and from Monday on Blocks 40 and 42. The work in each block was expected to take about one week.

"We are rushing the job because the work must be completed before winter," stated Shimamoto, "but we want the residents most of all to unpack and set up their homes when the interiors are fixed."

TANFORAN CHECKS



Tanforan paychecks will be issued today from 3 PM to 9 PM at Rec Hall 26. Each worker is requested to bring his Tanforan assignment sheet for proper identification.

There will be 4 pay-off tables in the hall with designations for the 3 le-

(Continued on Page 4)

DIVISIONS

TIMES

October 14, 1943

Page 2

HOSPITAL



The newest schedule of clinics held at the Infirmary (Laundry 4) is as follows:

GENERAL MEDICAL: Monday through Saturday, 9 to 11 AM. Monday through Friday 1 to 3 PM.

DENTAL: Monday through Saturday, 9 to 11 AM. Monday through Friday, 1 to 3 PM.

WELL-BABY: Monday and Thursday, 1 to 3 PM.

PRE-NATAL: Tuesdays and Fridays, 1 to 3 PM.

DIABETIC: Wednesdays, 1 to 3 PM.

REQUESTS: The following statement was made this week by the medical staff: "No permits of any kind will be issued at the hospital or clinics by the doctors. The doctors are overworked and must devote their full time to the care of patients. The staff would greatly appreciate the general populace refraining from coming to ask for permits to secure mattresses, stoves and etc. All such requests should be made to the Community Welfare Section in Rec 30, or to the block managers."

VISITORS: Visiting hours are from 2:30 to 3 PM and 7:30 to 8 PM daily. Only relatives are allowed to visit; residents under 14 will not be admitted.

AGRICULTURE



Before more than 200 residents, predominantly issei farmers, the first agricultural seminar session was held in Dining Hall 5 last Monday. Sponsored by the Agricultural Division, the seminar was opened by chairman Hi Korematsu at 7 PM.

Seminar committeeman Thomas Matsuoka introduced Roscoe Bell, division chief, who reported that: "Though the soil survey, which is expected to continue to the end of the month, has already shown that some of the Project area is unsuitable for crops, tests have also assured that there is considerable land capable of nourishing large growths of farm produce."

As for the Administration policy regarding farm enterprises within the Project," Bell added, "no more than a small Caucasian staff is being maintained. Hence, the attitude, energy and cooperation of the residents will be the dominant factor in the outcome of the farm program."

Bell also revealed that some of the initial stocks to be acquired are: 10,000 laying hens, 200 to 300 brood sows, 30,000 broiler fowl and possibly some

200 beef cattle.

Matsuoka pointed out that the Topaz farmers will be divided into organized groups representing such enterprises as poultry, hog-raising, general truck crops, live stock, and nursery and gardens. These groups are to function in coordination with the central planning committee and the agricultural technical staff.

QUESTIONS: With Frank Ura serving as interpreter, Bell answered questions asked from the floor. Some of his replies were as follows:

1. Skilled workers could come from other centers if they have a surplus, and workers are needed here.

2. Sugar beet workers, even though skilled, will receive \$16 monthly, while those who volunteer for work outside will get prevailing wages. The administration encourages workers to contribute to the war effort outside. Topaz's sugar beets will be worked by those who choose to remain here.


3. The first killing frost occurred this year on September 15, and it is said that the last occurs about May 23, each year, leaving a growing season of 119 days.

4. Vegetables for the first planting have not been selected. For the first 1,000 acres, they will depend on residents' suggestions.

5. It will probably be February before the poultry industry will begin, when it will be started with baby chicks since pullets are not available.

6. A bee farm is considered, with bees on a rental basis. They will be wintered in California. Probably one or two persons would be sufficient to handle the work involved in the care of 100 to 200 beehives.

EDUCATION



Informal teachers' conferences were held last Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The first 2 meetings were devoted to classification of textbooks that arrived last week from Tanforan. Topaz's educational system was discussed at the Saturday session.

Dr. John C. Carlisle, head of education, reported that the WRA had authorized the establishment of a community school system, which was a system that could not survive without dedication by all to the democratic ideal.

Dr. Robert E. Gibson, assistant director of education and recreation for the WRA, explained that this system maintains that the school should take a more active part in community life. Without this relationship, he said, a dead, static society would result. He added: "You can't teach health or conservation, for instance, if you live in an unsanitary community, or have open ditches gullyng out to farms."

NEWLYWEDS: John Towata, 12-6-A, left here recently for sugar beet work, accompanied by his wife, Georgianna. Towata planned to accept a position in St. Paul as an instructor in commercial flower arrangement after his sugar beet contract was terminated. His bride of a few months said: "I'm going, too, because I want to be with him always. I'm going to be his chief cook, and it'll be the first time I'll be cooking for him. I had over 1000 recipes at home. Oh, how I wish I had brought them with me!"

FROM CACHE COUNTY: From one of the 56 sugar beet workers who left here on Friday, Oct. 2, for Cache County, Utah, there has come to a resident here the following letter:

"Rolling along on the train from Delta, high spirits prevailed among us all. We all sensed a feeling of freedom and relief from the routine of center life.

"Arrived in Salt Lake City at 7:30 PM. Met several Santa Anita boys enroute to beet fields in Idaho. Also talked with a nisei girl from Salt Lake City.

"Pulled into Ogden at 8:30 PM. We were taken in a bus to Dick's Cafe on Ogden's Main Street, where 2 long banquet tables were set for us. We had a wonderful dinner while the juke box blared out the music of Glen Miller. After dinner, we were taken to the Utah-Idaho Central Railroad station where we boarded a streetcar for our destination. What a rocking, jolting ride that was!

"Groups dropped off at different stations and finally we got off at Smith field where our employer awaited to take us to his farm.

"The first night, lacking a bed, E-- slept on the floor in his sleeping bag. Half the night, he was kept busy trying to keep a cat from crawling into bed with him.

"Our living quarters include an oil lamp, wood-burning stove, an old bed with hay mattress (no bath or showers). Also an outhouse."

"As we got up this chilly morning, we noticed the quiet, serene atmosphere of this valley community--a typical rural community, with large barns stacked high with golden hay. Having a population of 800, the town boasts of one grocery store, one filling station, a post office and a church. The valley is bounded on one side by high green hills, as though to shelter it from the outside world. The people are very friendly. They seem to be our kind of people, just believing in simple living, brotherhood and seeking of others' good.

"Our little place is surrounded by tall poplars and cedars, with leaves turning yellow in the autumn sun.

"Our cat has the manners of a blue-nosed mule. Imagine wetting on E--'s bed! We unanimously agreed that she must get educated; and failing in that, we shall ostracize her forever from our

household.

"We bought our groceries from a store 3 blocks away. A heavenly breakfast on ham and eggs and wonderful coffee.

"I'm all 'writ' out for the present, so until next time I'll be signing 'thirty'. Good-bye."

FROM IDAHO: Norman Nakashima and Sat Fujinaga, now sugar beet topping at Preston, Idaho, reported to friends here that the climate there is the same as Topaz, and that the people of Preston are "real nice to us."

Jimmy Kawakami, 12-4-D, another worker on furlough, said: "Arrived at Shelley, Idaho (Oct. 2). Weather is pretty fair up here. I will start picking potatoes today. We bought \$10 worth of groceries today, and everybody takes turns at cooking. Shelley is a good town --something like Delta."

PRIVATE PROFITS



YOUNG ENTERPRISE: Youngsters from 9 to 11 years old were reaping in profits during the induction period.

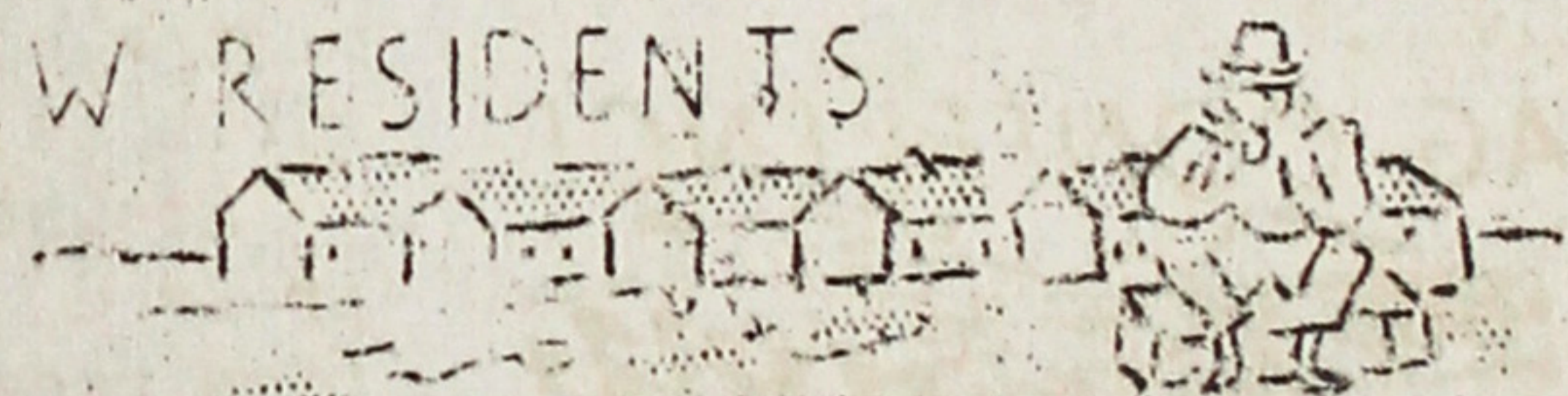
Attached to the housing bureau as volunteer workers, they directed the new arrivals to their apartments; and as one young guide put it: "Yep! The young couples and guys were the ones who tipped the most. The older issei seemed to think we were just a service, so they wouldn't fork over much."

A co-worker of his added: "I made 60¢ yesterday. One lady gave me two-bits, which sure raised my dough."

But a tallish guide said, "You gotta be small and innocent-like, because some of us big fellas don't make a cent in tips."

About a third of these guides earned from 15¢ to 60¢ a day.

NEW RESIDENTS



ANITAN: Hiroshi Onishi, 33 years old, was a requisition clerk at Santa Anita. Now here at Topaz, Onishi said: "I'm still confused. This place is a let-down, but I think and hope it's due to the newness and unfamiliarity of the surroundings. I have no preference in jobs and will take what's given me. There must be work for anyone willing to work!"

NEW LIFE: Mrs. Ase Sano, 61 years old, also came from Santa Anita. Regarding her relocation, Mrs. Sano thought: "Since I considered Santa Anita my home, more or less, I regretted the uprooting. To start a new life is so trying for one so aged as myself, but with the help and comfort of friends, I intend to adjust myself."

vels—U, S, P-T—and one reclassified division.

Arrangements have been completed by Walter Honderich, Chief of Community Enterprises, to cash the checks at the canteen.

VISITOR



First nisei soldier to visit Topaz was Tokumi Yamamoto, technical corporal, formerly of Kodi, who came last Saturday to visit Sumi Adachi of 5-12-B.

Yamamoto is living in Salt Lake City on a 15 day furlough; he has been in the Army 18 months and is stationed at Fort Custer, Michigan.

Previous to Yamamoto's visit, nisei soldiers were not permitted to enter WRA centers. But a special regulation issued recently by the San Francisco headquarters of the WRA stipulates that soldiers of Japanese ancestry serving in the armed forces may visit the centers, provided they have approved furlough papers and a travel permit.

"We're glad to see this come through," said James Hughes, assistant director of the Project. "It's been hard turning these young soldiers back at the gate when they came to visit their friends and relatives."

AG CONFERENCE



Four agricultural experts arrived at Topaz Saturday morning to assist in the coordination of the farming enterprises.

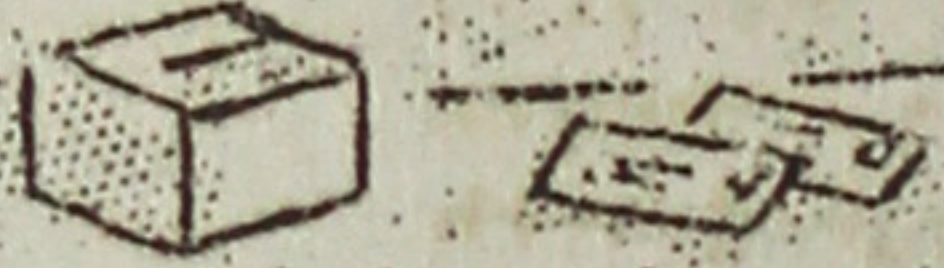
E.H. Reed and Donald R. Sabin from the WRA Agricultural Division of the Washington Office came directly from the Heart Mountain Project, Wyoming, and the Granada Project, Colorado. C.E. Zimmer and Robert S. Davidson arrived from the San Francisco Regional Office.

After a 3½-day conference preceded by a 4-hour tour of the Project Area the men left by train for the Minidoka Relocation

Center, Idaho, early yesterday afternoon.

With Roscoe E. Bell and other chief members of the Project Agricultural Division, the WRA men outlined plans for the livestock and crop production for 1943, determining the subsistence needs and the possible produce of all the relocation centers, the relationship of outside employment, purchase and marketing of livestock and crops, and the extent and kind of land development to be planned for the coming year.

ABSENTEE VOTING



All registered voters may obtain application forms for absent voters' ballots immediately at the City Hall, Rec Hall 16.

To be registered, the citizen must have cast his ballot at either the primary or general elections in 1940; and if he moved to another precinct after the election (and before the evacuation), he must have registered in his new precinct.

MORE ON HOUSING HEARING

grades be housed in Blocks 41 and 3. The latter site, he pointed out, would be vacated this week by the Caucasian carpenters now occupying it, and the arrangement would make the school buildings just as accessible as in the case of the other proposals.

Assistant Project Director James F. Hughes expressed the opinion that with building and construction proceeding at the present rate more than sufficient space could be made available for the elementary classes and that either Dr. Carlisle's or Sasagawa's plan could be adopted. He urged that the schools be opened by Oct. 19 as originally scheduled.

Arthur Eaton, head of the Housing Section, gave further figures on the possibility of making more space available and recommended that the schools be opened on time.

M. Kudo and S. Hamada of the Social Welfare Section pointed out that social problems would arise if there were any further moving or overcrowding of residents and suggested that the education section make compromises in its requirements.

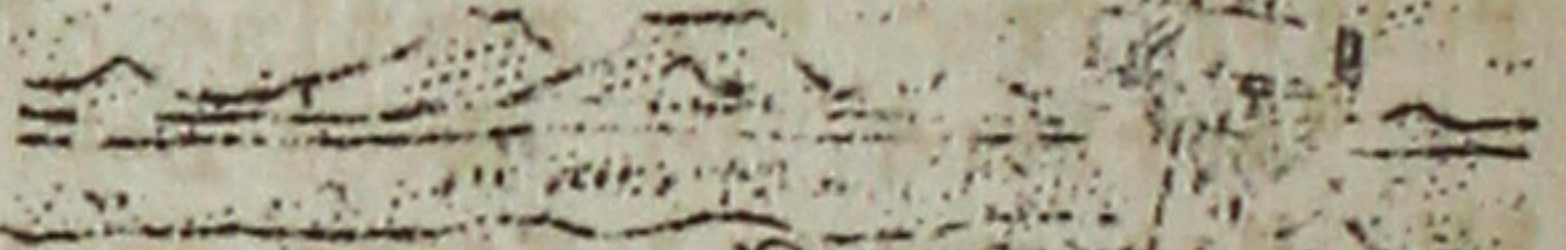
Opinions expressed by residents from the floor indicated that the majority were opposed to changes in housing arrangements and were in favor of postponing the opening of the schools, if necessary, until resident housing problems are solved.

The Council was expected to arrive at a decision Monday on the basis of the hearing and make recommendations to the Project administration.

To vote on Nov. 3, the voter must, between Oct. 14 and Oct. 29, apply to the County Clerk in his home county for an absentee ballot. He must then open and mark the ballot before a notary or public officer with such authority. Then he must return the ballot to the County clerk who must receive it on or before Nov. 9.

Voters who fail to vote at either the primary or general elections this year will have their registration cancelled.

FIRST DEATH



Koza Baba, 61, 26-10-B, pioneer San Francisco businessman, passed away at 5:15 PM, Friday, Oct. 9, at the Topaz Hospital, after a heart attack.

Services for the deceased were held Tuesday from 7 PM in Rec Hall 22, with the Rev. E. Kawamura officiating. His body will be cremated in Salt Lake City.