

COOPERATOR

PUBLISHED BY THE TULE LAKE COOPERATIVE ENTERPRISES, INC.

Vol. 4 No. 102

November 10, 1945

SPECIAL MEETING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY OPENING ADDRESS BUSINESS CLOSING DATE NOV. 30TH

Morio Yamagata, Chairman

The closing date of Tule Lake Center was announced to be earlier than expected, and this evening (October 25) the Board wants to consult with the General Assembly on working out a relief measure of dissolving the Tule Lake Co-op.

The reduction of inventory (stock of merchandise) is reported as being steadily progressing as the result of emergency steps taken by the Executive Committee; the Board feels it at any rate relieved for the present.

However, as the Board has plans for the payment of all patronage refunds, if possible, before Christmas, and the selection of Trustees to whom the remaining business will be trusted after the liquidation is completed, this special meeting has been called for the purpose of discussing these problems. (applause)

TOFU MAKING DISCONTINUED NOV. 30.

(AT THE SPECIAL MEETING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY) Though the sales contract of Tofu with W.R.A. calls for the fulfillment until December 31, 1945, the Co-op will not be able to do so, but will be compelled to discontinue the manufacturing at the end of November, because it will have to pull out the equipment beforehand.

The above statement was made at the Conference recently held between Project Director Best and the Co-op representatives (as reported by Executive Secretary Kimura).

(AT THE SPECIAL MEETING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY)

Surveying from all angles and considering the fact that 90 per cent of the Co-op employees are the renunciants of citizenship, November 15th was first regarded as the most appropriate date for closing stores and shops.

On October 22nd, representatives of the Board of Directors made a visit to Project Director Best and consulted on this matter with him.

Mr. Best suggested that December 31st may be the most convenient to the residents of this Center as the possible business closing date. He also added that he would try to the best of his effort to retain until that date those employees who renounced citizenship, in case they are segregated to another Center by the Department of Justice.

However, since liquidation work will require at least one and a half months to finish, stores and shops cannot be kept open for business. And so, the Board has decided to set the closing date as November 30th.

Mr. Best promised that he would use his good offices so that outside merchants be drawn into the Center to give necessary services to the residents thereafter if the Co-op so desires.

On the other hand, the Board is of the opinion that business can be transferred, wholly or partially, to any applicant among the residents. (As reported by the Executive Secretary Kimura).

According to Mr. Williams, the representative of the Department of Justice, as reported on October 31st, the Department of Justice, after February 1st, 1946, may make such a contract with trustees of the residents that the latter will setup a self-governing commercial body under the supervision of the former, with purchasing of merchandise to be done by the Justice Department, if the Department of Justice should assume charge of the Center.

GENERAL MGR'S REPORTS

(AT THE SPECIAL MEETING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY)

It has been decided that the barrack where the Canteen No. 5 is located will be turned over to W.R.A. at the end of October.

I am trying to dispose quickly of the materials held at the Shoe Repair Shop, but it requires no slight trouble to say nothing of the difficulty

involved in disposal of watch repairing materials. They are all of old-fashioned make. It is quite hopeless to sell them out.

It has been decided to discontinue photographing at the Photo Studio, since the finishing of already-taken pictures is almost two months behind.

ADVERTISEMENT

Applicants for purchase of furniture, fixtures and equipment are urged to so notify the General Manager Fujimoto immediately at 717 Co-op Office.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The following matters were proposed, debated and finally resolved as are indicated, by the Co-op Representatives' General Assembly at its special meeting which was held October 25th:

That the Tule Lake Cooperative Enterprises, Inc. be dissolved and liquidated.

That all business be closed by November 30, 1945.

That the liquidation of the assets be completed by January 15, 1946, and from that date, the responsibility of the settling the remaining matters be transferred to the Board of Trustees which will be comprised of three members.

That the Membership meeting be held at each block on November 10th, and have at least two-thirds of the membership pass the resolution on the dissolution and liquidation process by an open ballot.

Whether to assign the unsold portion of the assets for sale to residents of this Center or to outside merchants be discussed at the said Membership meeting.

That the selection of Trustees be left to the discretion of the Board of Directors and the Liquidation Preparation Committee.

How to dispose of the refund of already-paid Federal income tax (approx. \$10,000) which was later exempted, and how to dispose of undelivered patronage refunds be discussed at the Membership meeting. That the detail of disposal be left to the discretion of the Trustees, and the money be donated to one or more non-profit organizations or Charitable associations in proper time.

PAYMENT OF PATRONAGE REFUNDS DOUBTFUL FOR QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDING SEPT. 30TH

As per other articles published in this issue of the Co-operator, the Treasurer Kenzo Kojima announced at the special meeting of General Assembly which was held October 25th, that he and his colleagues had intended to pay off \$15,000 patronage refunds for the quarterly period beginning July 1st and ending September 30th, before Christmas.

Nevertheless, the payment of this \$15,000 seems to be quite hopeless now, in view of the information gathered at the recent Board Meeting. The reason is that the stock of merchandise on inventory is estimated at \$70,000, roughly figured, and the Executive Committee plans to sell that out to the patrons at 30% discount off cost, on average. If this should be done, the total loss would be \$70,000 only. This includes the loss caused by the special sale conducted during the month of October. Consequently, the total loss would be made up with the \$70,000 Unallocated Reserve fund, and the Co-op would be able to pay out of allocated reserve, approxi-

mately \$20,000, together with the said \$15,000 patronage refunds.

According to the suggestion made by the Liquidation Preparation Committee, the clearance of the \$70,000 inventory would be, it is said, impossible to accomplish by the end of November, judging from the result achieved during the past two months of September and October. The Committee has recommended that all the merchandise be sold to the patrons at 50% discount off the OPA ceiling prices rather than to dump the remaining merchandise to outside merchants after November 30th when the stores and shops are closed.

If merchandise should (cont'd on page 3)

PATRONAGE REFUNDS SINCE JANUARY 1ST

(AT THE SPECIAL MEETING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY) The amount of patronage refunds accumulated since January 1st of this year for payment aggregates to approximately \$90,000. Of this, refunds for the quarterly period from January 1st to March 31st is approximately \$34,000; from April 1st to June 30th \$36,000; from July 1st to September 30th \$20,000.

In addition to the above figure, there remains about \$5,000 which was to be paid to patrons as refunds for their purchase made to prior to December 31, 1944, but which has not been delivered to the persons in question for the reason that their changed addresses have not been notified the Co-op.

The Finance Department wishes to pay off all of this during the period from November 1st to December 31st. The patronage refunds for the quarterly period ending March 31st will be paid, beginning November 5th, by cash instead of cash orders. Residents in three blocks each will receive payment in every morning and afternoon, at the former stub-receiving station, 717.

The patronage refunds for the quarterly period ending June 30th will be paid as soon as possible in succession, to the previous one. (As reported by the Treasurer Kojima)

STUB RECEIVING DISCONTINUED

(AT THE SPECIAL MEETING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY) The Finance Department of the Co-op is hurrying as much as possible and preparing for the payment of patronage refunds, by working extra hours in the evening. However, at a Board meeting, it was decided that stub-receiving be discontinued because there is neither time nor funds to calculate for refunding now. (As reported by Executive Secretary Kimura)