

M I N U T E S

COMMITTEE OF IMMIGRANT SERVING AGENCIES

FAMILY WELFARE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY CHEST OF SAN FRANCISCO

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1942 - 10:00 A.M.
45 Second Street

PRESENT:

Blaisdell, Allen, Chairman

deAndreis, Frank
Duveneck, Mrs. Josphine
Kahn, Mrs. Sidney
Kimber, Mrs. Mary
Miller, Miss Persis
Tichner, Miss Henrietta
Treguboff, Sanford
Watson, Miss Annie Clo

International Institute Board

State Dept. of Immigration & Housing
American Friends Service Committee
National Council of Jewish Women
American Friends Service Committee
American Committee to Save Refugees
National Council of Jewish Women
S.F. Committee for Service to Emigres
International Institute

ABSENT:

Baker, Miss Betty
Elliott, Robert
Hastings, Mrs. Russell
Leonard, Mrs. Marjorie

Picard, Herbert
Rispoli, Milano
Shea, Rev. Eugene J.
Taylour, Miss Emilie
Tomas, Mark

American Friends Service Committee
American Red Cross, S.F. Chapter
International Institute Board
Northern California Committee for
Foreign Born
Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society
Italian Welfare Agency, Inc.
Affiliated Catholic Charities
Travelers Aid Society of S. F.
American Red Cross, Pacific Area Office

ALSO PRESENT:

Abiko, Yasno W.
Kanai, Lincoln
Kelley, Patrick
Layman, Dr. Mary H.
Leffler, John C.
Masaoka, Mike
Mukaye, Miss Kimiko
Porter, Mrs. Julia

Ruettell, Miss Margaret
Yoakum, Mrs. Wilhelmine

Japanese American Citizens League
Japanese Branch, Y.M.C.A.
Community Chest of San Francisco
International Institute
International Institute
Japanese American Citizens League
Japanese Center, Y.W.C.A.
Women's Division, Democratic State
Central Committee
Adjustment Bureau
International Institute of Alameda
County

PRESIDING
OFFICER:

Mr. Allen Blaisdell, Chairman, presided.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as distributed.

All persons who were attending the meeting for the first time were given an opportunity to introduce themselves.

A file of all printed material pertinent to the subject under discussion by the Committee will be compiled by the Secretary and made available upon request. This may eventually lead to a Speakers Manual.

The Chairman read his letters to Mr. Lillick and the replies which he received on the subject of the ruling pertaining to aliens who have been detained and are awaiting hearings. Mr. Lillick's thoughtful replies still did not give the information the Committee felt they needed and Mr. deAndreis promised to clear up the following points: -
What board passes on a case after the individual has been removed from here and how can an interested person appear and give testimony in behalf of an alien?

Whether an individual who wished to testify in behalf of an alien should do so as a representative of an agency or as an interested friend was discussed and it was thought that in most cases the latter would be preferable and that surely no one should testify unless he had the facts. All records of agencies, institutions and schools are available to the F.B.I. It has been satisfactory so far for private agencies to summarize cases for governmental agencies and in this way it has not been necessary to divulge personal, confidential material which is not pertinent to the government.

Mrs. Kahn read a letter from the National Council of Jewish Women on this subject.

Reverend Goto asked the Committee for suggestions in working out a way to get an emergency fund of \$4000.00 which was deposited in an American bank in a joint account of two Japanese Nationals who are now detained by the government thereby freezing this fund. The Japanese American Citizens League is working on the release of the funds for relief of Japanese who are in need, but feel they cannot ask for help from Caucasians after the way Japan has attacked the United States. Some present thought it would be better when and if the funds are released to distribute them through an already established Community Chest agency. Others thought that it would be better to have them given out by one of the Japanese church groups. This question will be brought back to the next meeting of the Committee for final solution.

Mr. Masaoka asked for help on the following problems which have been puzzling the Japanese American Citizens League.

- (1) Dissemination of information. There has been much confusion and contradiction from sources which should be reliable. In one instance it was necessary to wire Attorney General Biddle to get a final ruling on a question.
- (2) Sale of property. Although it has been stated that a Japanese person can transfer ownership of automobiles it has not worked out that way as no transfer of ownership has been made after sale.
- (3) Transportation.
- (4) Unemployment insurance.
- (5) Labor problem. This last problem is looming up now as one of the largest ones confronting the State of California. Filipinos are refusing to work with or for Japanese farmers. As Filipinos have been the greatest source of labor in the agricultural districts, this will be felt very shortly in the amount of produce that is brought to the markets.

Mr. Blaisdell suggested that Mr. Masaoka contact Mr. William Montgomery of the Foreign Trade Division of the Chamber of Commerce. . . .

Mr. Blaisdell will write a letter paving the way for Mr. Masaoka.

Mr. Masaoka is going to Los Angeles this week and will find out what the situation is in the South between the Japanese and the Filipinos.

There was discussion of the outrages which have been committed by Filipinos against Japanese citizens. There is a movement among Filipino leaders to put down any such activities as they feel that now is the time for Filipinos to raise themselves in the estimation of the American people and if they continue these outrages they will only make enemies for themselves. As most Filipinos belong to the Catholic church it was suggested that Catholic leaders should be contacted to see if they can exercise a restraining influence on the Filipinos. The Committee in the International Institute which is interested in this problem has contacted Governor Olson and it was further suggested that members of the Civil Rights Committee recently appointed by Governor Olson should be seen to see what they could do in this regard. Mr. Blaisdell will see Dr. Deutsch, Mrs. Porter will talk to Mrs. Eliel and Mrs. Duveneck will talk to Mr. Gandy.

Mr. Masaoka will prepare a statement which he will send the Secretary so that a copy can be in the hands of each member of the Committee. Miss Watson will bring several representative Filipinos to the next meeting of the Committee.

Reverend Leffler reported for his Committee (report on file with original copy) and it was decided that a conference or meeting should be held as soon as possible to which will be invited representatives of organizations who are in a position to assist in solving some of these problems. Reverend Leffler's subcommittee will meet on Friday, January 9th, at 10:00 A.M. at St. Luke's Church to lay the final plans for such a meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned.

rw:lg

Rhea Wendling, Secretary