

COORDINATING COUNCIL CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1943

REGISTRATION - Y.W.C.A. Club in charge

COMMUNITY SINGING - Henry Suzukida

"WHAT ARE THE ELEMENTS OF A GOOD COMMUNITY?"

Summary of discussions carried on in various groups.

CONCRETE EXAMPLES OF GOOD COMMUNITY THINKING AND PLANNING

Outstanding achievements in other Relocation Centers - Joe Okida in charge

SUPPER - FELLOWSHIP - Women's Federation in charge.

HOW CAN WE ACHIEVE A GOOD COMMUNITY IN AMACHE?

Explanation of purpose and work of COORDINATING COUNCIL

BREAK UP INTO SECTIONS

- Section 1. Environment
- Section 2. Character-Building
- Section 3. Research-Adjustment
- Section 4. Resettlement

RESPONSIBILITIES AND ASSIGNMENTS

General Chairman - Jimmie Yamanaka
Promotion - Hana Uno, Oski Taniwaki
Arrangements - Harry Takei, Mrs. Miyahara
Program - John Moore, Masao Satow

ORGANIZATIONS & DEPARTMENTS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Women's Federation | 9. Documentation | 17. 7th Day Adv. |
| 2. Boy Scouts | 10. Community Council | 18. Girl Scouts |
| 3. Y.W.C.A. | 11. PIONEER | 19. Y.M.W.B.A. |
| 4. Y.M.C.A. | 12. Education | 20. Christian Young
People |
| 5. Recreation | 13. Police | |
| 6. Social Service | 14. College Council | |
| 7. Christian Church | 15. Community Enterprise | |
| 8. Buddhist Church | 16. Catholic Young People | |

COORDINATING COUNCIL CONFERENCE

MINUTES OF MEETING OF RESEARCH-ADJUSTMENT COMMITTEE, COORDINATING COUNCIL.

The meeting was called to order on March 13, 1943 by the chairman, Mr. H. P. Shibata. The following members were present:

Alice Ohama	representing	Women's Federation
Yuri Domoto		Public Welfare
Joe Okida		Documentation
Hana Uno		Y.W.C.A.
Mrs. Mary Fujita)		lay persons
Audrey Fujita)		
Lucille Friedman		Education

The chairman asked for nomination for chairman of the committee. It was suggested that Mr. Shibata remain as permanent chairman, but he refused, reminding the membership of his induction into the armed forces. Yuri Domoto was then nominated, but refused to accept the nomination. Miss Ohama was nominated, and also refused the nomination. It was decided to leave the position open until the committee was able to find a chairman. The suggestion was accepted that a temporary chairman be appointed, this chairman to appoint his successor at each following meeting. Hana Uno accepted the appointment of temporary chairman, to call the next meeting of the committee.

The chairman started the discussion by reading briefly the problems concerning delinquency which face this committee. Individual maladjustments, such as the criminal and the prostitute, were discussed. The factors which make for delinquency were then briefly talked about, namely: environment, or the social surroundings of the individual; and factors within the individual, that is, his thought processes.

It was suggested by the chairman that the break-down in this camp of family authority and parental control contributed to delinquency. He pointed out that such basic factors as control of the purse strings, and control of the latch key, as well as the routine of the family in such things concerning meals, were no longer present. He suggested that with the absence of such control, the individual finds it much easier to break away from family traditions. He cited the fact that most children now eat at tables other than that at which their parents have their meals.

The problem of delinquency came up again. It was agreed that delinquent children should be treated as potential rather than as real criminals, and that the modern treatment for rehabilitating youth was to encourage membership in boys' clubs, rather than by segregating the boys in institutions.

The procedure of taking care of delinquents was then talked over. A case was cited showing a boy, breaking away from family ties, and getting into trouble. It was supposed that this lad stole candy from the canteen. What, then, happened? The police, it was pointed out, took the case to Mr. Yamanaka, who handles such cases for the schools. Mr. Yamanaka would then have an interview with the parents. The case then goes to Mr. Tomlinson, Security Officer, if the boy involved is over 18 years of age. It was pointed out that his procedure is punishment, rather than prevention of crime. It was concluded that a Board of Review is needed, which would have for its principle the maxim "all men are essentially good and honest by nature", and it is circumstance which makes him do unsocial acts. It was suggested that perhaps this group might be set up as such a Board of Review to build up interest in potential delinquents.

Minutes of meeting, Research-Adjustment Committee, Coordinating Council
Mr. H. P. Shibata, Chairman. 3/13/43

The problem of anti-social gangs was then brought up. It was agreed that the energy of these boys should be directed, and that they might be turned to socially-accepted clubs.

There was a suggestion made that a group of 3 or 4 persons might be designated to review the so-called "police records" so frequently talked about. It was pointed out that too many persons have so-called "police records" which are held against them, even though the individuals are now engaged in social activities. A person from the police department, it was suggested, should be approached with this suggestion. Many of these persons with "records" would never do anything criminal again.

It was agreed by the members that gangs could be made constructive groups, if their activities were directed. It was emphasized that individually the boys were fine lads. There are two ways, it was pointed out, to break up gangs: (1) by canalizing their activities; (2) by breaking the gang, splitting up its members. It was offered for discussion that gangs are the best foundation on which group work can start, since the interests of all the members lie along the same lines, and they have a liking for one another.

On this project, gangs seem to supply a satisfaction that is to be had in no other way, it was said. Out of school youth, it was pointed out, are our biggest problem.

The "big brother" and "Counselor" idea was then promulgated. It was suggested that some way could be found whereby adult members of the community would act as "sponsors" for potentially delinquent youth. This work would, of course, not be publicized, and such persons should be trained in the responsibilities of their work. It was suggested that they might serve as liason between the over-worked and under-staffed Welfare Department, and the community. It was suggested that the appointed personnel heads and the evacuees should meet and discuss this plan. There should be proper interviews, and background studies should be made.

The subject then changed to compulsory attendance at clubs, particularly YWCA groups, where, if a member did not attend for a specified number of meetings, she was dropped from the roll. It was pointed out that the members thus expelled were probably the ones who would benefit most by activity in a club. The question was brought up as to whether any of the services of the Welfare Department could be useful in a situation such as is described above.

The meeting adjourned at 8 o'clock, sine die. The next meeting is to be called by Miss Hana Uno.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille Friedman
Secretary pro tem