

## QUARTERLY REPORT

### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES SECTION Manzanar, California

January 1, - March 31, 1943

In order to make the administration of Community Activities more simple as well as more effective, many of the activities which formerly constituted separate departments have been put together under one manager or superintendent. Thus, all Community Activities are now coordinated into five large departments. These departments are: (1) Arts & Crafts, (2) Music, (3) Sports, (4) Entertainment and Social Activities, and (5) Gardening.

Up to the present, much of the materials and supplies used, such as sports equipment and teaching materials in Arts, Crafts, and Music, have been brought by WRA funds. As little or no WRA funds will be available for materials and supplies in the future, we are now in the process of organizing various recreation cooperatives through which necessary funds will be raised. It seems the residents favor having each activity form its own organization. Each one of the five departments will coordinate the small organizations within the department into one large cooperative and the five departmental cooperatives will be coordinated into one main Community Activities Cooperative. It is suggested that the small organizations keep a certain amount of the funds raised, while a certain percentage is turned into a general fund. This general fund will supply money for various activities voted upon by a Cooperative Board of Directors.

#### Personnel, Activities, and Organizations of the Five Departments

##### I. Arts and Crafts:

During the last three months the ARTS & CRAFTS Department has undergone a complete reorganization. The organization is now made up of the following sub-departments:

A. Commercial and Useful Arts: The staff consists of one director, five artists, one individual who functions as clerk and model, and one attendant. Among the activities taught are Fashions, Lettering, Designs, Posters, Stage Background, Portrait, Advertising, Anatomy, Abstract Designs, Landscaping, Life and Still Life.

B. Handicraft: One of the activities under this sub-department is Woodcraft. Three teachers and two teacher's aides are employed. Leathercraft is another activity taught by one teacher and one teacher's aide. One person is employed as teacher in Lettering. The fourth activity is Needlework with one teacher and two teacher's aides being employed. Over 300 students are at present studying Flower-making under the guidance of one teacher and two teacher's aides.

C. Sewing: Sewing is one of the major activities in the Arts and Crafts Department. Four teachers and eight aides are employed in this field. The number of participants in the various sewing courses number above 900.

## II. Music

The personnel in this department consists of one director, eight teachers at \$19.00 and six assistants at \$16.00, one clerk and one attendant. All the instruction given is for classes of two or more pupils. At present, instruction is given in Voice and Community Singing, Class Piano and Harmony, Brass Instruments, Reed Instruments, Wood Winds and String Instruments.

The Music Department is sponsoring the following larger organizations; Glee Club, Military Band, Concert Orchestra, Guitar and Mandolin Orchestra, and Swing Band.

At the recent four performances of the pageant, "From Many Lands and Nations," presented by the Education Department, the orchestra played a fifteen minute prelude in addition to accompany the entire pageant. This orchestra also played at the recent banquet for the volunteers to the army. The concert orchestra is composed of inexperienced players, but is growing fast and promises to be very large and popular. At present there are twenty-some violin players in this group.

The band also has improved immensely with the purchasing of new band music. This group has given several outdoor concerts. The Mandolin and Guitar Orchestra is another of our popular organizations. It has appeared at various programs and always gets a good reception. The swing band has played at many dances and parties including one given for the Appointed Personnel and the two companies of soldiers stationed at Manzanar.

The first of April we had 416 different individuals registered for music lessons.

## III. Sports

During the last three months the Sports Department has concentrated on basketball and golf. We had five leagues with 44 basketball teams for men, and two leagues with 12 teams for girls. The Golf Association has about 300 members. In addition to the members, many non-members are participating in this sport. The Golf Association has been promoting various successful tournaments every other weekend.

The Sports Department has just been reorganized so that we now have one Manager of all sports. Under him are various directors or coaches, each of whom handles one sport. The activities which will be promoted during the spring quarter are; baseball, golf, softball, track and field, tennis, badminton, weight-lifting, boxing, wrestling, sumo, croquet and horseshoes. A large share of the leadership in sports is furnished by volunteers. To date, all refereeing has been done on a volunteer basis. Also, several sports such as boxing, sumo, wrestling and others are handled by volunteer coaches.

#### IV. Entertainment and Social Activities

This department includes various activities. The most popular ones among older people are goh, shogi, variety shows and dramas. The activities stressed for younger people are boys' and girls' clubs, entertainment, dancing, ping-pong, card games and various other games.

At the present we have registered 26 girls' clubs and 46 boys' clubs. The average membership of these clubs is about fifteen. Several girls' clubs united in presenting a successful Girls' Hi Jinks on March 26.

Since the beginning of the year, the Issei Department has given ten variety shows and one play. The young people are experiencing difficulty in putting on dances inasmuch as we have no halls large enough for dancing. The recreation halls used by our department are too narrow. Also, they have no linoleum on the floor. The few dances that are sponsored by them are held in the kitchens.

Since November all employees in this department have been required to attend In-Service Training twice a week. Three units of Junior College credit is given for this course called "Techniques in Recreational Leadership." The course is a practical one, offering the students a chance to participate in, as well as actually lead, a variety of activities. Among the activities studied are; community singing and song leadership, modern dancing, folk and square dancing, public speaking and microphone technique, story telling, mixers and various active, quiet and social games.

At the recent school pageant ten of the best leaders were assigned to teach the dances which were presented by several school grades. These leaders are also called on frequently by different organizations in camp, including the school department, for leadership at parties and dances.

Although the scout movement is neither entertainment nor a social activity, it is classified in this group for administrative purposes. In the past it has been an independent department, but due to the lack of capable supervisors, it has been deemed desirable to have this department under the supervision of the Manager of Entertainment and Social Activities for old and young people.

The scout program has been very handicapped due to the lack of trained leadership. January 2 and 3 we were visited by four scout representatives from Los Angeles who came to help us train leaders. Unfortunately we did not succeed in getting the participation we had hoped for. We felt that the reason for this was that due to the trouble on December 6, most of the young people were afraid to identify themselves with the scout program. At present the scout situation is even worse. It has turned out that our leaders were either pro-Axis, and therefore ineligible for jobs with the scouts, or they have volunteered for the army.

We are anticipating the visit of Mr. Zander from Los Angeles the week of April 4. He has promised to come and help us try to get new life into the scout program.

## V. Gardening

The gardening project consists of two main activities; victory gardening and flower gardening. Last year our victory gardeners got water for irrigation from the fire hydrants. Since we are not able to use water from the hydrants this year, the Public Works Division has dug a trench from Shepherd's Creek down to the land north of camp. The ditch has been lined by volunteer gardeners, and it is the plan to cultivate a new tract of land north of camp this year for victory gardens. If it appears that there will be enough water for the old victory garden located in the firebreaks between Blocks 11 & 12 on the south and Blocks 17 & 18 on the north, another trench will be dug down to this garden of three acres. However, if there isn't enough water for both, it will be necessary to give up the old victory garden and use the new one north of camp.

A flower garden has been planted in the firebreaks between Blocks 33 & 34 near the hospital. This garden is really a rose park as the gardeners have budded 10,000 wild roses and these are now being transplanted to the firebreaks between Blocks 33 & 34. In addition to the roses, this park will have a pool surrounded by various kinds of trees and with various kinds of flowers along the edges. The gardeners are now in the process of seeding 100 varieties of flowers.

The garden project is extremely popular with the older residents. To them, a garden serves four main purposes; (1) it provides food. Much of this can be eaten raw in salad form. However, the bulk of it is given to the mess halls in their respective blocks. In fact, the blocks encourage the raising of victory gardens on a community basis and everything raised is turned in to the kitchen. (2) It beautifies the camp area. (3) It prevents dusts. (4) It gives many people an opportunity to experiment with various strains of flowers and vegetables which they have brought with them and which they wish to perpetuate.

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