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Minutes of the
Agriculture Group Meeting
August 18, 1942

Meeting of the agriculture group was called to order by Gerald S. Wumino on August 18, Tuesday, at 8:30 P.M. in Block 310 Dining Hall.

Mr. Wumino stated the purpose of this gathering was to discuss the various methods and ideas in regard to what may be done with the land in Camp 3 since this section will be used mainly for farming purposes.

Mr. Moris Burge was then introduced to the meeting. To quote him: "I feel that whatever is done here, essentially we will be a farming community. The very subsistence of Poston will depend upon farming. Enterprises will be started among which will be some factories, but we are going to be mainly farmers. I am told that we have some of the best farmers in the state of California. Since I do not know much about farming, it is my purpose to give as much assistance in organizing and in obtaining the necessary equipment. However, I do feel there is a danger of setting up a too elaborate program and still have no farming, so I asked Mr. Wumino to get together a group who are leaders in the farming industry to talk among themselves and decide how best we can handle the situation. There are certain limitations imposed on us by the government, but we will also have a chance to produce our own crops and in our own methods. I urge everyone to join in the discussion on how we can best produce crops at Poston."

Mr. Takahashi, an authority on cooperative method of farming, and who will be moving within the next few days to Camp 1 to head its agricultural division was asked to speak. According to Mr. Takahashi the Poston Department of Agriculture and Industry are under one section and the agricultural department will be first put into effect. The main 5 divisions to be developed in Camp 1 are: nursery, fish control, poultry raising, truck crops, and technical investigation and marketing. The entire system will be headed by an executive committee of 3 isseis and 3 nisseis, but the entire staff will be made up of approximately 25 members for the 5 divisions. Isseis were included within the staff because it was proved that they were valuable for the project with their many years of practical experience and knowledge. This was the highlight of Mr. Takahashi's talk in bringing to us the proposed projects to be developed at Camp 1.

Mr. Wumino then explained the experimental gardens already started in Camp 1. The idea of the three-camp projects being worked out as one was discouraged since it would

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not practical due to different soil conditions, irrigation systems, or any other factors which may enter in. Mr. Wumino suggested the plan of family units or group farming. It was pointed out that after the end of the war, there will be many cases of families being unable to return to California because of financial condition or other various reasons. He suggested the possibility of a lease with the government to extend a period of 5 years during which time these people may farm and also have a place of residence. He thought it the best to stay under the protection of the United States government farming perhaps under a share basis and also have the cooperation in obtaining finances, fertilizer, seeds and equipment. Thus all parties concerned would benefit by this plan.

Mr. Burge suggested that approximately 100 yards of mesquite around the camp buildings be left uncleared to serve the purpose as a windbreak, to give the camp site a better appearance and also be used as a playground for children by trimming the mesquite. Such an arrangement was being used in Camp 1 and has proved quite practical.

The general opinion of the meeting was that an experimental plot or plots be started as soon as possible in order that at least vegetables to supply the kitchens may be produced soon. It was pointed out that supplies were getting rather scarce and uncertain and planting our own produces would solve that problem. Mr. Burge is to check on the water supply and if it proves there is sufficient water to be used for this experiment, plans will be made in near future to start the experimental plot or plots and the methods used for them. The main purpose of the experiment was to find what types of crops would be suited to soil, climatic and irrigation conditions.

Mr. Burge recommended that an advisory board be set up to plan methods of experimentation as well as for the actual farming. The advisory board is to make reports and recommendations on the plans for this camp to place before the heads of the camps for approval and for cooperation in obtaining the needed supplies and equipment.

The meeting was adjourned with the idea of letting matters stand until a tour of the experimental gardens of Camp 1 has been inspected by the members of the agricultural group. This tour was decided to be taken on August 22, Saturday, morning at 9:00 A.m, provided transportation facilities can be arranged and is subject to be changed as to date and time.

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QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AND SUGGESTIONS:

1. How soon will there be enough water to try to raise some truck crops as a method of experimenting?

Ans.: If we have to wait for the irrigation canal, it will be approximately 2 months or possibly more, but if the well that is being dug now proves to be a good one we may use some of the water for experiment plots. This will probably take at least two weeks before having this water. It is necessary to bear in mind that there will be about 1,200 more arrivals in this camp at the end of the month and first consideration of water supply must be for use in the kitchens, wash rooms, drinking, and lavatories.

2. What is the irrigation level between here and Phoenix and the rainfall in this territory?

Ans.: The irrigation level is about the same between Poston and Phoenix. The rainfall is about 3 inches per year. There is no necessity of fearing water shortage since there is the Colorado River and a reservoir above Camp 1. The delay of getting an irrigation canal to Camp 3 is due to lack or shortage of heavy equipment.

3. When will it be possible to obtain diesel equipment to clear the land?

Ans.: We do not know from day to day how much heavy equipment will be left for the project. The army is in a position to requisition any heavy equipment for their use.

4. What are the plans for planting guayule plants in this camp?

Ans.: There are no plans for planting guayule in this camp, so this matter is to be decided later on.

5. If the goal is going to be the most economical plan of raising truck crops, how are we to get the equipment around to the various plots in the family plan?

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Ans.: There has been no determination made as to the type of land plots and units. It is possible that we shall use the large area plots as well as the small area plan. Of course the most vital point that will be kept in mind when plans are made is to use the most economical one. With soil conditions as they are, climate and plenty of water, there is no reason why we cannot produce plenty of foodstuff for the people and for the government.

6. How much land is available for the project for planting?

Ans.: There are about 50,000 acres for the project and before any plans can be made for planting, it will be necessary to clear the land first.

7. Under what department were the men working in Camp 1 subjugating the land?

Ans.: The men subjugating the land is under the Department of Engineering and Irrigation and all the land will be subjugated under this department. It is up to the people of this camp to have some say as to what the land will be used for.

8. Is it true that we are under the one head and all our activities will be governed by the one head?

Ans.: We are under the supervision of the administration of the project, but there will be a Department of Agriculture set up in each of the 3 camps and each will have much to say in the methods used.

9. What are the plans or methods for raising poultry in Camp 1?

Ans.: The present plan is to raise poultry in the open. This is not really suitable since there is the menace of coyotes, weasels and other types of animals. The main point to consider is that weather conditions will not be suited to chickens. Suggestions for raising ducks was brought up.

10. How is it that the farming equipment bought by the government cannot be brought for the project here at Poston as it is being done at Tule Lake?

Ans.:

There has been no determination as to the type of land plots and this is possible that we shall use the large plots as well as the small plots. It is obvious that the plots that will be kept in mind when plans are made is to use the most economical one. With all conditions as they are, it is to be expected that there is no reason why we cannot produce a plan of settlement for the people and for the Government.

How much land is available for the project for planting?

There are about 30,000 acres for the project and before any plans can be made for planting, it will be necessary to clear the land first.

Under what conditions were the men working in Camp 1 studying the land?

The men studying the land is under the department of Agriculture and Irrigation and all the land will be subjected under this department. It is up to the people of this camp to have some say in what the land will be used for.

Is it true that we are under the one hand and all our activities will be governed by the one hand?

We are under the supervision of the administration of the project, but there will be a department of Agriculture set up in each of the 3 camps and each will have much to say in the matter.

What are the plans or methods for raising poultry in Camp 1?

The present plan is to raise poultry in the open. This is not really suitable since there is the danger of disease, lice and other types of ailments. The main point to consider is that the conditions will not be suited to chickens. Suggestions for raising ducks are brought up.

How is it that the farming equipment bought by the Government cannot be brought for the project here at Tapan? Is it being sent to Tapa?

Yes.

Agriculture
City Hall Conference Room
2:30 PM
Special Meeting

June 7, 1943

MINUTES

Present: Community Council
Agriculture Dept. Rep. 1, 2, & 3

Mr. M. Nakamura presiding.

He made a statement of the requirement of the Agriculture Dept. for the next fiscal year. 35% of our food must be raised in Poston. 14¢ for each person.

MIZUSAWA: If we work on the figure from so much dollars per person that will be a wrong attitude to take, We should have the figure of how much we eat by the pound basis. How much poundage we should raise from that standpoint. When we had the meeting with WRA officials in November we worked on this figure. BUT only interested in vegetables. 520 tons and if we have to raise 35% that will be nearly close to 3,500,000,000 pounds.

SAKAI: Then we should raise 10,000,000,000.

MIZUSAWA: Possible 750 crop acre by working on the basis of 2 crops a year. That's for vegetables and for eggs it takes close to 600,000,000 dozen.

NITTA: Based on Arizona laying capacity.

MIZUSAWA: Some figures were given to us by Mr. Snelson, but we increased it a little.

NAKAI: how many chicks?

MIZUSAWA: 21,000 chicks. We figured on 5,000 meat birds per week to feed the community. In order to reach that stage we have to have a large project.

NAKAI: Any chickens in 2 and 3.

MIZUSAWA: Yes, in all 3 units there are 21,000. I think 3 has

more laying hens than I has.

FUKUDA: Have you talked about raising ducks?

OKAMOTO: They raise more eggs.

OKAMURA (3): In camp 3 we have 6,200 meat birds of which 2,000 are pullets.

OKAMOTO: How many acres.

MIZUSAWA: About 6,000 acres that includes everything.

(Discussion in Japanese)

35% has to be raised in Poston. This means 14¢ for each person.

Discussed as to whether this 35% was for the 10 relocation centers or for just Poston. The point wasn't cleared and has to be cleared by the Administration.

NAKAI: Since we have such poor cooperation from Mr. Mathiesen, in order to correct this we should have an evacuee assistant selected by the Agr. Dept.

OGAWA: Yes, the Agr. Dept. is one-sided.

FUKUDA: You ought to have one big office.

MIZUSAWA: Mr. Chairman, I suggest in regard to the reduction of the 45¢ to 31¢, I thought from an all-over picture why they would reduce it. I went to a girl in the cost accounting and took the average cost for each person. Nov. 45¢, Dec. 49¢, Jan. 39¢, Feb. 31¢, Mar. 34¢, April 35¢, Personnel 32 29¢. I thought that point may have something to do with the cutting down of the budget. We will still have to grow 35%.

SAKAMOTO (2): In the mean time we better investigate matters and protest. WE should study further the facts and protest and have them continues supplying the food to a certain extent.

NAKAI: We are going to have a food shortage. If the thing goes wrong we might not get any food and we will be the one to suffer. If the things goes right we will not have to worry.

NAKAMURA: We must have more discussion later. I would appreciate very much if we could get the cooperation from the evacuees Agriculture personnel on this matter.

ADJOURNMENT

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Meeting of the Representatives of
Poston 1, 2, and 3 to Agriculture
Conference

and

Mr. Len Nelson, Administrator
Poston 1

Mr. M. A. Mathiesen, Chief of
Agriculture & Industries

Mr. R. Rupkey, Chief Engineer

July 3, 1943

Meeting of the representatives of Poston 1, 2, and 3 to an Agriculture Conference held on July 3, 1943, Saturday, 2:00 P.M. at Block 30 Mess Hall was called to order by Chairman M. Nakamura of the Poston Community Council.

Mr. Nakamura extended words of welcome and greetings to the representatives of the three units and asked that cooperation be had in coping with the present agriculture and food problems facing the residents of Poston.

A statement had been issued to the residents that during the fiscal year covering a period from July 1, 1943, to June 30, 1944, Poston is expected to raise \$135,000 of food and a total of \$500,000 in produce. In order we may be able to cope with this situation, the Poston Community Council has appointed a Council Agriculture Committee consisting of seven members--- three from Poston 1, two from Poston 2, and two from Poston 3. This body is to assist with the problem.

According to statement issued in the newspapers, appropriation being asked for the operation of the relocation centers was \$35,000,000 which means quite a reduction. Since food is a very important item in our daily existence and also the fact that it is almost impossible to purchase certain types of food on the markets, it is necessary for us to raise them.

It is my wish to set an example in Poston with our agriculture program that will bring the attention of the country upon us, as well as to create an ideal existence here under the circumstances.

Mr. Nakamura then introduced Mr. Jimmy Takashima, Vice-Chairman of the Poston Community Council who will be chairman of this conference.

Chairman Takashima called upon Mr. Len Nelson, Administrator of Poston 1, who brought the message for Mr. Wade Head, Project Director, who could not be present at the conference.

Mr. Nelson: At 8:15 A.M. this morning, Mr. Head advised me that he had to leave the project for the day, and requested that I extend his regrets to you. However, I am sure that he appreciates this group of men getting together to study a common problem, a problem which concerns Poston as a whole. We have more or less felt as Unit 1, 2, and 3 and that is a good sign. Competition is the spice of life; however, we have before us this morning a Poston Problem, something that each and everyone of us regardless of our identity should take a part in.

A great deal of the troubles is in some of the misunderstanding, for the lack of information, and getting the information down to the people. Therefore, I am charging this group here with the responsibility of getting that information to the people.

I am sure the people have found their director whose first ideas was the welfare of the people of Poston. He is carrying the torch for us against the outside. It is our responsibility on the inside to make this place to uphold it.

During the past 14 months since the inception of Poston we have had many discouraging obstacles face us. We had a shortage of materials, equipment and supplies. We did not have a priority, and very frankly, we did not have the workers. We have got to settle down and get to work. Instructions that are coming now from the Washington office is very clear. There is no misunderstanding. We have to take the ball and carry it.

You have heard that the ratio of money allowable has been reduced from the 1944 fiscal year. It is not a question so much of the monetary value or how much Congress appropriates. To me it is a question of obtaining that stuff. You know there is an acute shortage of materials and it is our job to supplement that material.

Very definitely there has been mistakes made, and now we have to make a decision and work together and cooperate and put the whole thing over.

Mr. H. A. Mathiesen: I am very happy to see here this morning not only such a large crowd, but especially to see the real farmers. I do not think we should discuss the things in the past, but I think this morning we should discuss facts. Where is the land going to be subjugated, how much land is going to be available and make some definite

plans for getting that job done. That is what we are all here for. You folks from Arizona, Salt River Valley and Imperial Valley know desert farming. We have the job of getting the water through, the structures that crosses the bridge, and other such work to be done. We have got to be pretty sure that Mr. Rupkey is to have adequate assistance so that the water could be had on Section 34.

When you folks came to Poston, you knew just as much about it as I did. The plan at the beginning was 40,000 acres and we went along with that assumption with the evacuees to participate in raising the produce. This was until Mr. Myers came here and said relocation was the main idea of the War Relocation Authority. We changed from that date of a large farming problem to that of subsistence only.

It isn't too much work when we have to raise 14¢ per day for each of the evacuees. Somewhere between 6,000 and 7,000 acres would do the job of subsistence. Now the figures were worked out:

Truck Farming	619	Acres
Hog Raising	120	"
Dairy Cattle		
Corrals	80	"
Fish Culture	80	"
Nursery	40	"
Berries	120	"
Fruit	200	"
Grain	3,200	"
Pastures	1,500	"
Alfalfa	1,000	"
Rice	300	"

I believe the information went out correctly as far as my office was concerned about the 31¢. Our job is only to produce the other 14¢ and it is going to be rather simple. Our camp requires about 10,000,000 lbs. of vegetables to feed this camp. That does not seem very difficult, particularly when you hear from Mr. Rupkey as to the land that is going to be subjugated. We have contemplated for the year 1944 of the 10,000,000 lbs. that approximately 6,000,000 lbs. will be produced here.

July 3, 1943

I would like to say that the budget request made up for the Department of Agriculture for the three Poston units totals to \$300,000.00. The breakdown are:

Travel for the heads----	\$23,000
Freight	15,000
Contractual Service	600
(Mostly on Indian School farm of 80 acres by Poston 2. Project furnished the fence, material and everything else. \$6.00 an acre is allowed on the land plus water.)	
Supplies & materials	177,000
Equipment	134,000

There is no guaranty that we will get what is requested. If we farm 3,000 acres and can't make it, it is a bad job. That is about \$100 an acre for costs.

I have been told there isn't enough equipment to do the work here in Poston. If on a four-hour day, there is not enough equipment. There is enough equipment to do it on a eight-hour day job. Twice men from the War Production Board have been here to inspect the equipment and no equipment have been taken out whatsoever. If we go into more equipment, we may have to face the War Production Board.

On procurement, we have had difficulties in getting things. Procurement is slow is the criticisms made. We should not point our fingers at procurement then any other department. It is the shortage of labor in that department. Mr. Sharpe is doing the best for us. We have that problem of processing the thing and many times it is difficult to get that thing.

It is necessary for me to leave this project next week. I was loaned to the War Relocation Authority by the Indian Service, and they are recalling the loan. Thank you very much, and it has been a pleasure to work with you folks.

Mr. R. Rupkey: I am very glad this conference has been called and please to be able to talk to you. I want to divide my talk into two main part: (1) Past progress and (2) Discussion of future programs.

About 15 months ago I was asked by a group of Army men from Los Angeles and by the Indian Service officials with plans for the subjugation and preparation of 40,000 acres of land and also that 20,000 Japanese people from the West Coast would be brought here to make their living.

The Indian Service had developed this place enough so that within a year we could supply water down here. Equipment was hauled in from other Indian reservations in Montana, Washington, Texas, New Mexico and California to go ahead with the work. We were asked to do the work, but was not given the priority to buy the equipment since the government felt that National Defense needed the new equipment.

We started a year ago May to get the water down here from the Indian Service ditches. We had everything to get the exploration work on our canals. We were only successful in getting second-hand tractors which broke down right away. We have about 95% of the excavation work done. I think we will have by the end of this month completed three constructions on the canal. During the first six months we were told to hire only evacuees. We tried to get labor for this work, but we were not successful. About the 1st of January we had so much money so we hired outside labor. Managed to complete two structures and two more to be finished soon. We can only have nine outside labor, so we will have to depend on the local evacuees to make the concrete forms and other work.

We have been granted sufficient money for next year to do all we need to do. We have about 300,000 in supplies and materials, but only \$20,000 in labor.

There is one thing we must bear in mind which is the water which we have. We are now using waste water from the old Indian Service ditches. The construction work has brought some of the Indians

out of the farms, but this year we are working for an increase of farming of the Indians, so less water would be coming down than at the present time. Now we have to get ditches or canals down from the Colorado Dam.

We now have approximately 1200 acres, including the townsite, that is just ready, just about ready for use. Some needs finishing and other need first irrigation. We have succeeded quite well in building structure. Camp 2 furnished a very good crew. We must divide the equipment to some extent with other branches of the Public Service. We have the flood control, drainage work, certain amount of building and developments, but I am sure we can do all the work provided we have full cooperation of the evacuees. No further instructions are made on the purchasing of the equipment, and I do not look for any trouble in the future.

H. A. Mathiesen: question asked as to the acreage that would be ready for farming. 1,200 acres now, and have a contract for about 1,000 acres more. I would say by November 1, 1943, we shall have about 2,000 acres of land ready for cultivation. On September 1, about 1,500 acres ready for cultivation.

Meeting was then adjourned for the morning to be continued at 1:30 P.M. at the same location by Chairman Jimmy Takashima.

Reports of the unit Agriculture Departments were given at this time:

I. Poston I---Mr. Mizusawa

First of all, I shall divide into two reports: (a) What we have been doing in the past. Realizing the needs of subsistence foods and in the later part of May, 1942, so that there will be no shortage of foods, a few handful of men rolled up their sleeves and from this nucleus, there are 249 employees. Men with experience came to offer their services, students training, technical men for planning, experienced truck crop men began to grow vegetables. Men raised vegetables and poultry and seed growers went into the program and nurserymen went to the job of beautifying the blocks. Landscaping men went into landscaping open grounds for children and other people to break the monotony of the scenery. Men tried to make this community a better place in which to live.

Poston I Agriculture Department plans:

1. Truck crops, 120 acres
2. 40 acres of the land was not successful due to the condition of the soil and lack of drainage.
3. 160 acres on Section #34
4. Field crop division 40 acres of corn and developing 60 acres more.
5. Poultry 80 acres of land.
6. Swinery--160 acres developed, 120 acres of which is now ready for production.
7. Nursery--30 acres is used for seeds

Production figures as of July 1, 1943:

- a. Truck division--874,000 lbs. or 437 tons
- b. Slaughter, 20,420 lbs.
- c. Poultry, 6,480 lbs.
- d. Fish being used for control of mosquitoes
- e. Flowers, 1,589 dozens
Vegetable plants, 1062 dozens
Cut flowers, 179 dozens

Agriculture Executive Board--the Agriculture Department has requested to abolish this board and committee of 3-2-2 was approved on the part of the Project Director.

Due to war-time procurement problems of much needed equipment, supplies and tools could not be had, and we resorted to primitive methods of food production. These men in the

Agriculture Department pushed the agriculture project through. When the residents of Poston were in a uncooperative state, soil and climatic conditions, lack of tools and equipment, through voluntary harvesting and other such conditions, these men have worked hard to make a success.

In order to carry out this agricultural production of food for subsistence, these men must receive more cooperation not in words, but in action and brawn so that the community will live well. These men should receive acknowledge of appreciation for the work done to date.

II. Poston II

Camp 2 Agriculture Department started on July 5, 1943. Since the organization started, at present there are 131, of which 46 are part-time men. Comparing Camp 1, 2, and 3 together, we are the smallest of the three groups. There were many troubles and misunderstandings.

Mr. Mathiesen informed us that 60 acres of the Indian School Farm had been leased and Camp 3 undertook to farm this piece of land. At present we are growing spinach, carrots, watermelons, cantaloupes, onions, casaba melons, and honeydews.

Poultry project started on February, 1943. At present there are 3,300 female birds and 400 male birds. 750 birds were delivered to the mess halls which weighed 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ average.

Landscaping and nursery is going along smoothly. Landscaping project seems quite slow, but caused by shortage of labor. Other projects are not very important, so are planning to eliminate some.

Productions:

- a. Cantaloupes---45,000 lbs.
- b. Carrots---33,000 lbs., on July 30, 1943
- c. Cabbage---15,560 lbs.

The fact that there is an acute shortage of crates is a great misfortune. Camp 2 has been quite fortunate in having obtained the cooperation of the kitchens in saving the crates available.

Future Plans of the Poston 2 Agriculture Department:

- a. Soybeans for the Department of Industry
- b. Marina daikon for pickled vegetables
- c. Moyashi seed
- d. Truck Crop division---tomatoes, spinach about 20 acres,

onions both white and brown, cabbage about 15 acres, carrots about 20 acres, lettuce about 20 acres, and at the Indian School Farm---cantaloupes, watermelon, honeydew, sweet corn. In the firebreak area will be planted turnips, carrots, and nappa.

Poston III----Mr. Matsumoto

Poston 3 compared with Camp 1 and 2 is quite different in that we came here the latest. In Poston 1 and 2 there was irrigation water available, but in Poston 3, there was no available water and it was not until October 1942 that we were finally able to start on our agricultural project. There is only one well which could not be used for drinking purposes, so that well was used by the suggestion of Mr. Mathieson and Mr. Sharpe for irrigation of our crops. Therefore, 20 acres near the well was used to be farmed, of which 2 acres have been let aside for the students' experiments. The divisions of the agricultural project are: landscaping, poultry, nursery, and truck crops.

Acreage farmed and productions:

1. Nappa, $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres, 40,845 lbs
2. Squash, 3 acres, 17,937 lbs.
3. Cucumbers, 1 acre, 7, 616 lbs.
4. Tomatoes, $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres, just started and have only cultivated 1,500 lbs.
5. Eggplant, $\frac{3}{4}$ acre, just coming out and have only harvested 100 lbs.
6. Honeydew, 5 acres
7. Watermelon, 3 acres

Poultry

- a. May shipment received were 3,060 chicks
584 died, 575 birds weighing total of 1900 lbs
delivered to the subsistence department and hospital.
- b. June shipment received 4,060 birds
462 died, balance left 3,598 birds

In regard to future plans, the intention of the Agriculture Department is to request for water. At present we are planning to use the 20 acres of land and do intensive farming on that small plot. Among the crops contemplated are daikon, nappa, carrots, cabbage.

Experiments have been made with soybeans and mung beans in order to raise same for the Industry Department and manufacture of tofu and moyashi. By all appearances, the mung beans may succeed, but the soy beans perhaps due to being out of season did not do so well.

During the periods of March, April and May as well as June, 1943, there were approximately between 104 to 118 workers of which 20 were part-time employees.

Chairman Takashima then opened the floor for any discussions, opinions, questions, and answers.

QUESTION: According to the information gathered by the Council committee, the acreage figures given were:

- a. 100 acres leveled in Section 34
- b. South side 60 acres, and possibly 80 acres
- c. Camp 2 leased land of 80 acres
- d. Camp 3 farm project of 20 acres

This makes a total of 260 acres. It is also possible that another 50 acres would be ready by the end of July. With the equipment, tools, and implements now on hand and after consulting the heads of the unit Agriculture Department it seems that in Camp 3 they only have enough tools to farm 20 acres, in Camp 2 from 150 to 200 acres, while in Camp 1 approximately 200 acres is about all. That makes a total of 420 acres that could be farmed with present supply of equipment and tools. According to the figures given by Mr. Mathiesen, the expectation is to farm approximately 700 acres. The question asked is whether additional equipment is obtainable to farm the other 300 extra acreage?

Mr. Mathiesen: It comes back to my statement of how many hours we are to farm. We have right now 24 Furgesons and 4 caterpillars, and one of the cats is never operated. That means 24 Furgesons on 300 acres just now. That is not over-loading the job right now.

We can spread out our farming on a longer than 4-hour day basis. We can work out shifts and so on, but we are up against the War Production Board. We are going to have to conform to our machinery and equipment needs according to the War Production Board. I do not know whether there are any yardsticks to see how many equipment it is going to take on the Furgesons when they only work four hours a day.

I think this matter today is one of the things we should have had quite a while ago. I feel that particularly for the Councilmen since they have not had the opportunity to get the

facts, how much things were produced, and what it is going to mean. On the hog plan we are just waiting until the pastures are ready, but we are going ahead with the dairy program.

We are in the same situation as we are on the outside and there just is not any equipment. We have got to roll the equipment more as they are being done all over the United States. There are 61 total tractors, not counting the caterpillars, on the project today. There are 4 caterpillars and two more coming in from Phoenix.

The Agriculture Department is really interested in taking or having the interest of the Council in their problems. They want the interest of the Council and wish to have their cooperation. The Agriculture Department would like to thank you.

QUESTION: Is there any possible ways so that you can obtain some insecticides three or four months in advance in case of any emergency?

H. Mathiesen: That brings up the whole procurement problem again. We have had that worry with procurement and regardless whether we worry about it or not, it will get us nowhere. It is Government regulations, and the only thing is to anticipate in advance for 3, 4, or 5 months. We did not anticipate four farms at the end of last year, and we did not anticipate needing so much equipment.

Right now we are getting in in advance our requisitions on cultivators and combines which is not needed until October.

QUESTION: How many men would you need for that construction job?

R. Rupkey: The job is ready to continue right along as we build the irrigation ditches, the structures, the turn-outs in the laterals, and drops in the laterals. We need a continued force on that work. Just immediately, we need 50 to 75 men in order to put the main structure across the road.

QUESTION: You mentioned equipment budget for next year is \$1,200,000 and labor provided is only \$20,000.

R. Rupkey: That is true--\$1,200,000 for leveling of land, construction work, construction of roads, townsite improvements and other works. The \$20,000 is only for irregular workers, any skilled labor or labor outside of salaries. It does not include evasue labor. Evasue labor can be distributed on the project as I see fit with the exception of the 5,000 ceiling.

QUESTION: It is very difficult to get the crates. This is the same story in Gila Relocation Center. Those things have to be remedied some way, can't we?

M. Mathiesen: I know it is bad. Lugs and shocks are mostly going into lend-lease and that is the reason we are not getting it. Last purchase was 600 dozens and another order was for \$1,384 worth of baskets. We have got to get the food in here.

1,300 acres roughly divided into 3 general land sections:

1. Section #34 lies directly west of Poston 1 and approximately 500 to 600 acres.
2. Between units 1 and 2 that area comes somewhere near that acreage.
3. Across the road is another area that will be equal to 300 acres.

QUESTION: We need crates because we will have two or more harvesting seasons where we have to send out some stuff out and get stuff here.

M. Mathiesen: It is the job of the Community Council how we should get such crates.

Suggestion was made that a small committee be formed to assist with the Department of Agriculture in working out the plans and problems of food production. Matter was then opened for discussions:

1. Members of the Agriculture have thoroughly looked into problems connected with food raising, and are familiar with the whole matter. Therefore, it is not necessary to form another committee, but would rather have just the Council Agriculture Committee work together with the Agriculture Department.
2. Having too many committees make it rather cumbersome. The whole question is to get the work done rather than how many committees could be formed. Considering the

manpower shortage, it is best to use the groups as we have now who are familiar with the problems.

3. Committee is necessary to formulate plans taking into consideration what must be produced, the manpower available, the equipment and tools that are obtainable, and how plans should be carried out.

QUESTION: Will this agricultural program be given a priority?

L. Nelson: Everyone in this room realizes the significance of the teletype from Washington, D. C. limiting the total number of employees to 5,600. As to what department should be allowed so many people will be determined by the essentiality of that project. This will mean that non-essential workers will be reduced to provide workers for the essential positions.

RESOLUTION

The people of Poston will support the Agriculture Department in the production of subsistence food, and fullest cooperation will be accorded towards this effort.

Resolution presented to the meeting and approved unanimously in favor of it.

Meeting was then adjourned by Chairman Jimmy Takashima.