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JANUARY 8 -- (4)

POSTON SCHOOL CODE

The Community Council of the Community of Poston do ordain the following Poston School Code:

I. Compulsory Attendance. Every person in Poston having control of any child between the age of six and eighteen years, shall send such child to the Poston Schools for the full time that such schools are in session within the Unit in which such child resides, provided that such person shall be excused from such duty by the Director of Education or such party or parties that he may designate and the Youth Counseling Board, if such an organization is in existence, and if not, the Judicial Commission of the particular unit in which the child resides. Such excuses may be granted if one or more of the following exists:

- (a) That such child is in such physical or mental condition as to render such attendance inexpedient or impracticable;
- (b) And if presented any reasons for such non-attendance satisfactory to such party, parties, and/or boards as herein authorized to pass on such excuses;
- (c) Or, is over 16 years of age and it is adjudged by the party, parties and/or boards herein authorized to pass on excuses that such child will benefit more from full-time employment at an approved lawful wage earning occupation than from continued attendance at school;
- (d) Or, has completed the requirements for graduation from the senior high school.

II. Employment of Minors. No child under the age of eighteen years shall be employed by any person during the hours that the schools are in session unless such child shall present a work permit from the school principal, or his authorized agent, stating the hours of the school day during which employment is approved; or unless such child shall present a certificate from the Director of Education stating that he has been excused from attendance from school for one of the reasons set forth in Section "I" above, which certificate may be revoked at any time. A record of the nature of such employment and the employer's evaluation of the work of such a child shall be incorporated in the child's permanent school record.

III. Truant Officers. The Director of Education may appoint an attendance officer or officers who shall see that the regulations regarding the employment of minors and their attendance at school are obeyed. He may, without a warrant, bring children, who are absent from school without a proper legal excuse, before the authority competent to hear and dispose of such cases and may enter all places where children may be employed to investigate and enforce this regulation.

IV. Liability of Parents. Any pupil who cuts, defaces or otherwise injures any school property with criminal intent or without due care is liable to suspension or expulsion, and upon complaint of the

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Education Administrative Council, the parents or guardians of such pupils shall be liable for such damages.

V. Violations of Previous Sections. Any person violating the provisions of the preceding section shall be guilty of an offense.

Approved and unanimously adopted by the Poston Community Council on the 28th day of December, 1943 at eleven o'clock.

POSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

/s/ K. J. Takashima
Chairman

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*Education
(Cross ref in
Personality)*

Dr. Arthur Harris, the Director of Education, brought the case of a disobedient student, about 15 years old, to the Youth Counseling Board. The student T had been annoying his Caucasian teacher, Harris stated from a report from the teacher. T would not mind his teacher, he talks back to ~~the~~ ^{her} teacher, he heckles her, and he often goes into disturbing antics to attract attention of his fellow students.

Tom Sakai, the Supervisor, was also in the room, and requested to handle the boy first, for T is a resident of his block. Harris and I advised Sakai to find out the source of troubles in talking with T in confidence. We believed T was "showing off" to reinforce "his ^s pretige" among his friends. I suggested it might be a good idea to transfer the boy to another class. Harris was in favor of the plan, but Principal Main, according to Harris, was opposed to ^{the} transfer under such a circumstance.

We agreed, however, to await Sakai's findings about T for our decision.

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Feb 7

The following memorandum was issued by the P T A to the blocks:

Education

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
COLORADO RIVER PROJECT
FEB. 1944

STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON RELOCATION SCHOOLS

	Elem.	Enrollment High Sch.	Total
Gila River	1101	1344	2445
Minidoka	843	1330	2173
Tule Lake	Not in session		
Manzanar	933	982	1915
Central Utah	701	999	1700
Heart Mt.	996	1401	2397
Granada	807	993	1800
Rohwer	742	921	1663
Jerome	867 Colorado River	1029	1896
Colorado River	1664	2219	3883
Total	8654	11218	19872

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The notice on Pachuko haircuts and zoot suits (Of: January 24, page 1) seems to have been mimeographed by George Fujii.

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	Teachers		
Elem.	High School		Total
59	74		133
31	41		72
17	36		53
30	43		73
35	52		87
39	75		114
29	48		77
30	50		80
37	48		95
93	124		217
400	591		991

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Girdler is the new principal, who replaced Arthur Main. Main was unpopular with the students and with the teachers (Caucasians). The leaders of the Administration, knowing the sentiment, did not persuade Main to remain here when he had expressed his intention of resigning. Girdler is the younger brother of Steel Magnate Girdler.

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Feb 21

February 19, 1944

Juvenile Council
Poston, Arizona

Gentlemen:

Education

Yesterday G----- T-----, a member of the twelfth grade class in Poston I High School, was sent home because of a loud and improper infraction of ordinary school discipline. I sent him home under no suspension other than that he was to bring his parents with him to discuss the with me if he wished to return to school. I am sending you a copy of my letter to his father. I notify you only with a thought in mind that G may not show up again. In passing, I wish to say that G and I had no heated arguments. I merely told him that he was to go home and that I wished to see his parents.

John Girdler,
Principal

Feb 22
Bldg Mgr
Meeting
Education

Some Managers complained the difficulty of assuming the
responsibility to ~~clean~~^{clean} classrooms in their Recreation Halls.
They wanted the Education Department to hire janitor^s for that
purpose. Sakai replied that the quota for the Department was
exhausted, and could not hire any more, while the quota for the
Block Managers might be reduced. ^{soon}

See also Law and Order, March 10

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Mar 2

The following memorandum was issued to the blocks:

POLICIES WITH REFERENCE TO USE OF THE POSTON I SCHOOL ASSEMBLY HALL

Policy I

Education
The responsibility for regulating the use of the Poston I School Assembly Hall shall be vested in a committee of twelve consisting of members from each of the following groups:

- Two from Parents' Association
- Two from School Administration
- Four from Elementary School Staff
- Two from Secondary School Staff
- Two from Community Activities

Policy II

This school assembly hall is primarily for the use of the schools.

Policy III

Recognized organizations under responsible leadership may apply to the executive secretary of the policy forming committee for use of the assembly hall.

Policy IV

Ten per cent of the gross receipts is to be turned over to the executive secretary of the Assembly Hall Committee to be deposited in the "Assembly Hall Fund," if an admission is charged and/or the hall is used for commercial or benefit purposes.

Policy V

Any organization using the assembly hall and adjacent lavatories must assume full responsibility for the care and pro-

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tection of the buildings and all properties contained therein, and must provide adequately for famitorial service.

Policy VI

Any organization failing to comply with the agreements made for the use of the assembly hall may be denied the future use of the building by action of the committee.

Policy VII

This assembly hall has been built for educational purposes and for the uplift of the community. These purposes can be attained only through peaceful and orderly conduct at all time. Those to whom the use of the assembly hall is granted must be responsible for the maintenance of such conduct.

Policy VIII

It is urged that no decorations of any kind be used except transparent colored paper over the lights. This is to conserve paper, which, due to shortages, is becoming a vital material --- and to avoid rapid deterioration of the building.

Policy IX

A written permit is absolutely necessary for reservation. No verbal reservations shall be considered effective.

Policy X

A deposit of one dollar is required for the key to the assembly hall.

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AUGUST 8 -- (1)

Arthur Harris, the Director of Education, told me today that the seniors and juniors of the Poston High School are not thinking their problems seriously. They as a whole are not interested in human problems. This, he claimed, was due to the type of the high school principals we had and have here. The principals are only interested in teaching facts to the students.

In the old days, in Harris' opinion, the seniors and juniors were vitally interested in the social and economic problems in terms of their own problems. They had curiosity to learn how to solve their own problems. This curiosity was encouraged by the competent faculty of the time; the teachers encouraged them to discuss their difficulties and grievances freely and candidly. Of course, some of the students went "wild" in letting out their "belly aches", but it helped them. It helped them so much that they had an easier time to adjust themselves when they had relocated on the outside.

Some of the students of the first crop were very frank, especially with racial discrimination and abrogation of democratic principles in connection with the evacuation. They were often in serious troubles with their teachers, because they wanted to be stubborn in maintaining their contentions on these matters. But in most of the cases the teachers had forebearance to tolerate them. Harris contended that the teachers understood what experiences these boys and girls had gone through and in what abnormal conditions they were in. Harris was proud that they had been given a chance to let out their "beef" to release their pressure inside them.

Harris believed that the present faculty (mostly Caucasians now) was not quite on par with the old ones. They lack an understanding of human beings in these abnormal conditions. Of course, they say they understand the conditions, but their reactions betray them.

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He misses these "therapeutically recovered" Nisei. If they remained here, they would lead the younger element to a healthy level of living.

Harris, then, went on to reflect on the present juvenile delinquency. (This will be covered in detail in a few days.) He noticed a recurrence of "corner boys" here and there incamp. The delinquent boys are especially noticeable, ^{loitering} in the Administration Building. He wanted the Youth Counseling Board to act on some of the boys. I told him that the Board was inactive, and could not be expected to do much work. It was necessary to reorganize the Board with new members to put a new life into it. Harris said that it was all right to get new members, but he certainly did not want any member of the Councils on the Board. He said he did not have any confidence in the Councils, specially the Community Council.

Harris discussed whether the members of the Councils are relocatable. I told him that they do not intend to relocate. They have to relocate sometime, Harris stated, and the WRA is likely to fold up anytime without much advance notice. Then what these people are going to do? Harris had Kawasaki, Okamoto, and Onishi in his mind. I replied that they won't be able to make a living on the outside. It might be possible to make a living if the Little Tokyo's in Denver and Chicago became larger. They would be parasites of the Japanese in Little Tokyo's, I said.

Harris noticed recently that the outlook of many Nisei have changed. They are looking more toward America for their future. This change came about with the continual reverses of the Japanese forces in the Pacific, he thought. It is having a great effect on the younger generation now. He cited that in Camp III a few days ago fifteen boys applied for cancellation of their applications for expatriation. He believed more requests for cancellation would

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come in soon.

"When Japan is crushed, I see many things to happen here," Harris stated. "For one thing, disintegration of the community will be remarkable."

August 8

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I had a conference with Moris Burge this morning. The matter of the ousting attempt by Kawasaki, Okamoto, Yahiro, and others of Dr. Pressman came up. (See June 26, page 2; July 2, page ³ 3; July 8, page 1; July 16, page 2, section 6; July 17, page 2, the second item; July 18, page 1; July 19, page 1, section c; July 29, page 2, the second paragraph, etc.)

Since the presentation of charges against Dr. Pressman to the Spanish representative, the "City Hall Gang" arranged a meeting with the evacuee doctors. During this meeting the Japanese doctors aired their grievances. Dr. Murase, for instance, said that he was humiliated to work under Dr. Pressman, because he was officious and inconsiderate. Dr. Murase said that he was not treated like a human being; ^{by Pressman} his individuality was not respected. He never ~~worked~~ ^{such an} anywhere under ~~the~~ insulting condition. He was treated as if he did not know anything about medicine, he complained. Suzuki, too, stated that Pressman acted like a "kike". All these discussions were supposedly off the record. The hospital staff believed it was safe to throw mud at Pressman.

The result, however, turned out to be quite different from what the hospital staff had expected. The "City Hall Gang" prepared a resume of the meeting and sent it to the Project Director. In it the Councilmen stated that a resolution had been passed by the meeting (naming all the individuals attended) requesting the WRA to transfer Dr. Pressman from Poston.

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The Japanese doctors heard of this move by the Councilmen, and were very angry. They believed they were tricked into this thing and betrayed. They immediately prepared their own memorandum stating that they had not passed any resolution as alleged ⁱⁿ by the Council's memorandum. Nor did they concur to the idea of the move to oust Dr. Pressman from the hospital. The evacuees were afraid that they might be charged of violating the medical ethics. This memorandum of refuting the Council's contention was sent to the Project Director.

The Gang, however, did not know for a few days that the doctors had sent ~~a~~ ^{the} memorandum to the Director contradicting the Council's contentions. The Councilmen, ^{meanwhile,} sent in another memorandum with recommendations, Suzuki informed me. This memorandum contained the following recommendations according to Suzuki:

1. Dr. West should be recalled from Gila. Possibly he should be made the chief medical officer here.

2. If Dr. Pressman cannot be transferred from here, he should be made in charge of the ~~affairs~~ ^{affairs} outside of the center. In this case Dr. West should be authorized to take charge of the affairs of the Boston General Hospital.

"What do they want me to do?" Suzuki quoted Pressman as saying. "Do they want me to stay out of the center? I don't care what Kawasaki wants me to do. I don't care what Mills says. There is the WRA Manual. It states exactly what the chief medical officer should do. I will do everything according to this."

(More important, there was no support from the community to the move by the Gang. There is no agitation against Pressman elsewhere in camp other than in the Community Council. It appeared as if the whole thing was a grudge battle between the Gang and

