

MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL
AND THE DIVISIONAL RESPONSIBLE MEN

January 14, 1944

The meeting of the Advisory Council and the divisional responsible men was held on January 14, 1944, at Room 23 of the Administration Building from 4:05 p.m. Dr. Opler presided.

The following were present:

Advisory Council

Dr. Opler
Mr. McNeil
Mr. Silverthorne

Divisional Responsible Men

Mr. Shimada
Mr. Akitsuki
Mr. Nakao
Mr. Okamoto
Mr. Naito
Mr. Namekawa
Mr. Yamatani
Mr. Mayeda
Mr. Furukawa

Lieutenant Forbes was also present.

Dr. Opler first stated that in order to work mutually for our common goal, it is the Advisory Council's desire to deliberate and discuss the happenings and problems of the present situation with the divisional responsible men. The Advisory Council is an informal body, which will attempt to convey and to see that the Project Director who is very busy is informed of and fully understands the situation.

Mr. Yamatani mentioned that at the meeting of the divisional heads held on January 13, 1944, the assembled body had unanimously given approval to the Committee of seven that they be called the "Co-ordinating Committee." Mr. Akitsuki has been appointed as the temporary Executive Secretary. Many problems will have to be solved, many difficulties will have to be encountered in this process of returning the employees to their respective positions, and the Committee will expend its utmost effort in meeting and attacking these problems. Mr. Yamatani continued that Mr. Kawai had raised a problem at yesterday's meeting: An ex-employee of the Housing Department was recommended for immediate assignment; notwithstanding, he was rejected. According to Mr. Huycke, Mr. Akitsuki commented, this rejected person has a right to appeal directly to Mr. Best.

Lt. Forbes then stated that a situation of the same nature arose this morning. One of the warehouse crew was rejected on the list sent. This list is checked with the Army and WRA files, and also the Police Department. Mr. Best was consulted. He stressed that such a situation should be discussed and thrashed out by the employer who refused the employee and the employee who was not wanted. The two will meet with the Project Director in reference to the employment.

Dr. Opler went ^{on} to say that inasmuch as the appointed personnel must be "nursed" into this new plan, each division head will decide the problems according to his own discretion in that particular case without referring it to the Co-ordinating Council, as Mr. Huycke said. Mr. Silverthorne remarked that the decision should be reached on the basis of their past records, and should not be of a personal nature.

Dr. Opler suggested a publication of a good newspaper, which will eventually be established as soon as the Reports Officer arrives in this Project. The Committee should recommend and place efficient newspapermen on the staff. He further went on to suggest the necessity of a wardens' organization, and again referred the selection of men to Committee's recommendations.

Momentarily, Mr. Akitsuki stated that Mr. Shimokon, Field Advisor of the Wardens, had told him that it was the desire and decision of the wardens to return to work immediately. Mr. Silverthorne suggested that a placement of a new staff in the wardens' organization, which will incidentally be called the Police Department, should be selected by the Committee. Dr. Opler added that Mr. Schmidt expressed desire to meet with the Committee in order to discuss some wardens' problems today.

Dr. Opler analyzed the referendum votes and pointed out that certain trends are evident - certain wards and blocks are one-sided, either for or against, which shows there is no uniformity in the votes. Therefore, we must be cautious on the possibility of more intricate problems.

In reference to the wardens' organization, Dr. Opler mentioned the fact that the training of the police force for smoother operation should be started and also a training school for chefs.

At this time, Mr. Yamatani requested that the Coordinating Committee of seven be officially recognized by the Army and the U.S. Official recognition is necessary in order to:

- (1) Avoid possible misunderstanding among parties concerned as well as colonists.
- (2) Facilitate the initiative step toward the immediate object - calling people back to work.

Messrs. Black, Huycke, Robertson, Opler, Silverthorne, and McNeil constitute the Advisory Council.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ H. Iwihara

H. Iwihara
Secretary Pro Tem