

April 11, 1948 ^(HMS)
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LABOR CAMP INVESTIGATION AND REPORT

The following inspections and surveys were made up by the committee from the LULAC Council No. 1., Dr. Hector P. Garcia, Hector De Pena, D. B. Saavedra, Alonso Perales, Louis Wilmot and Joe Garza. They were assisted and brought to the camps by a committee of Mathis citizens whose co-chairmen were, Armando Flores and Fernando Lopez. A photographer was taken along to take pictures of the areas to be covered by the survey in order to have pictorial evidence to bring out the points in question.

LABOR CAMP NO. 1

For the record this camp is known as Camp No. 1, and is located in the northwest section of Mathis and is allegedly owned by John B. Howard, who is a Vegetable Shipper. At the time the inspections were made on April 22, 1948, there were approximately ten families residing in this camp with a total of 60 members. Most of these families remain in these huts during the year and are not migratory. The migratory families start arriving in the early part of May or in the latter part of April. The conditions found in these camps are as follows:

follows:

1. Ten families. Total of sixty members.
2. Two water hydrants for the whole camp.
3. Camp approximately one third filled up.
4. No lights. No bathing or washing facilities, no heating or cooking facilities unless brought in by families themselves.
5. No screens in the houses, no windows to speak of.
6. All open pit privies with no screening, no rat-proofing, no fly-proofing. Majority of pits allready full and over-flowing.
7. There were no wooden floors. People lived and slept on the bare ground.
8. No garbage cans. No facilities for sewage disposal.
9. Garbage littered all over camp.
10. No cleaning equipment like brooms, brushes, water carriers.

1. First house visited. Total of six. Four sick with dysentery.
2. Second house. Total of four. Two sick with diarrhea.