

#### 4. The Demise of the Protest Movement, and Afterwards

##### (2) 〈The Aison Kindred Spirits is Formed〉 (August-September, 1953)

The residents of Onebu district became the first in Uchinada to stop participating in the sit-ins. In addition to the growing belief that the protests should be led by the citizens themselves rather than their local governments, the resistance movement came under heavy scrutiny for ignoring police warnings that some of their activities were being instigated by support groups from outside of Uchinada and Ishikawa Prefecture, which resulted in the Onebu Citizens Association deciding to cut ties with outside groups in their meeting on August 2nd. Then, on the 11th, they ceased participation in the sit-ins, and on the 16th, they formed an organization targeted towards young people named the "Aison Kindred Spirits." The group was originally designed to promote the severing of ties between the citizens of Uchinada and outsider groups, but because the Aison Kindred Spirits was mainly composed of zealous young people, Onebu was forced to use coercive methods to subdue them, and consequently received heavy criticism. However, through hard work, the villagers who believed in purchasing the land back steadily grew, and in September the group moved about in earnest to achieve their goal.