

300 Japanese Must Evacuate Alameda Tuesday

Alameda, Calif.
(Nichi Bei Dispatch)

With neither rancor nor bitterness, close to 300 Japanese nationals, residents of Alameda for many years, prepared to leave this city which has been designated by the justice department as a prohibited area. The deadline for their evacuation is midnight Tuesday.

Leaving with their alien parents will be approximately 100 American-born children. Some families have already left the city, but a great majority will move out today and tomorrow.

A few diehards are expected to remain until the final day. Less than 200 nisei are planning to stay behind. The departing Japanese expressed their gratitude to the people of Alameda in two paid advertisements which appeared this week in a local paper. *The two messages read as follows; From Those Who must leave To Those Who Remain...*

Now that we
must leave
our beloved
“HOME”

hallow us there.

Which sought through the world is ne'er met with elsewhere. 'An exile from home splendor dazzles in vain, Oh, give me my lowly thatched cottage again; The birds singing gaily, that come at my call. Give me them, and that peace of mind dearer than all.'

And Alameda has been a 'HOME' to us—For here we have lived there many years in peace and contentment—And watched our children grow into manhood.

And experienced those associations and friendships which make like so dear—Those pleasures will be treasured through the years. Alameda—and Alamedans—have been kind to us.

Now that we must leave our beloved “HOME” that defenses of our country may be strengthened, We do so without bitterness or loss of faith in the ideals of liberty and freedom.

With grateful appreciation in our hearts which cannot find expression in speech—We commend to your loving care and guidance our children, citizens all, most of whom were born and reared here.

Confident that you will treat them—as you have treated us—like friends and neighbors. In bidding you a fond and affectionate farewell. We reaffirm our confidence in the ultimate victory of the

A WORD OF APPRECIATION

“Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam, Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home; A charm from the skies seem to



Left: 1218 Oak Street, the Japanese Employment Agency in 1907

United States of America. And fervently pray for the day when we may once again return "HOME" to you. May this not be "Good Bye" but "Until We Meet Again."



JAPANESE WELFARE COMMITTEE. HARRY H. KONO, CHAIRMAN.

THE EXPRESSION OF CHRISTIAN EVACUEES:

As we leave Alameda, our native town of Christian faith which we have come to love so dearly, we express our heartfelt appreciation to the people of this fair city for the kindness and friendship they extended us these many years, and especially to the Christian Churches and to the Ministerial Union for their untiring efforts in keeping the flame of Christian love burning in these dark hours and for their various expressions of graciousness and generosity.

Never before have we felt the inadequacy of language for the expression of appreciation as we do now, for we leave with hearts replete with gratefulness.

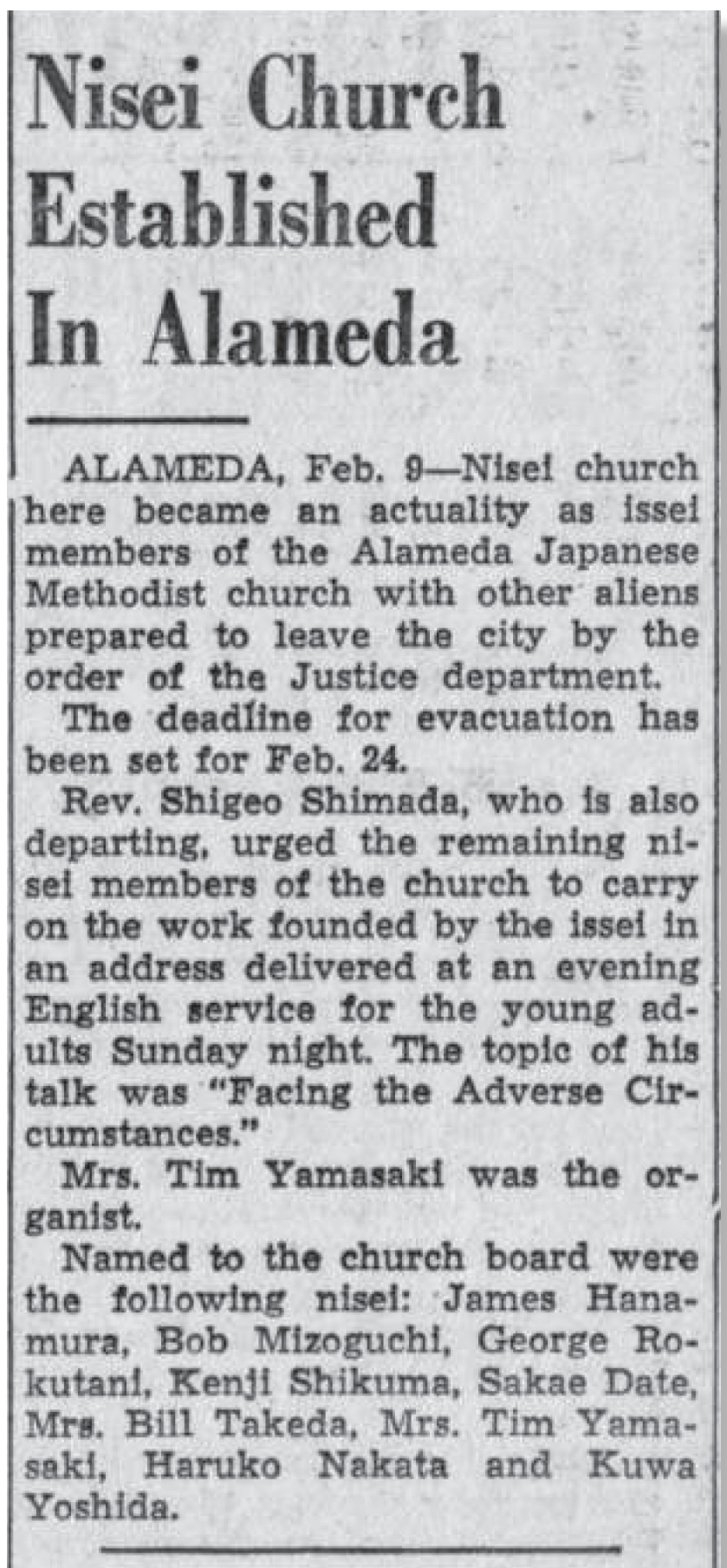
The pleasant memories of warm friendships will sweeten and enrich our lives where ever we may be.

Right: With the Issei leaving (hence the 'Last Isei Service' photo), the JME becomes a "Nisei Church" and installs the church board members with all Niseis. Mrs. Bill Takeda would be Nellie Takeda.

Now, as we hand over our church to our young sons and daughters, we ask for your guidance that they may develop into lofty, noble characters, worthy of the citizenship of the United States of America.

We pray sincerely and earnestly for the establishment of a new world where freedom, justice and happiness—the ideals of the Christian democracy we cherish—may reign supreme. May God bless the people of Alameda.

Alameda Japanese Methodist Church, Women Society, Torao Miki, Superintendent of Church School, S. Shimada, Pastor.





An unknown Nisei and his Caucasian friend pose in front of Mary Helm Hall, at the JME church in Alameda, CA. Circa 1930s