



ON the LAST BOAT from Japan

Love can spring from many a beginning, but rarely does it come from meeting a deadline.

“My husband, when he was 14...” said Fumiko “Nellie” Itahara, “he came from Japan on the last boat, that was April 24 (1924)... it was the last boat from Japan for people who wanted to come here.”

That deadline was set by the United States federal government. The 1924 Immigration Act ended Japanese immigration to America.

And that’s how love humbly began for Nellie and future husband Shuzo “Bill” Takeda.

The Itaharas and Takeda families knew each other back in Japan. So a

relationship already existed.

“I remember going to meet him on the boat,” Nellie recalled. “Then he went to Los Angeles and I went through high school (in Alameda, CA).”

Los Angeles and Alameda are some 360 miles apart. Driving time back then was easily more than six hours.

“We (Japanese) have match makers. You’ve heard of match makers?” Nellie said. “And the very best friend that I have now, her mother-in-law and father thought that I would be a good match for Bill...So that’s how we met.”

Nellie and Bill were married on January 19, 1941... a mere 17 years after Bill met his federally-mandated deadline.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. SEP 2 1928

R. H. U.S. Immigration



2920

American Consulate, No. _____
at *Yokohama* *Japan*
(City) (Country)

SEEN

For the journey to the United States,
via *San Francisco*

Wm. Franklin Nasson
Visa (Consul)

Date *May 15, 1924*

(The validity of this visa expires
twelve months from this date, pro-
vided the passport itself continues
to be valid for that period.)



AMERICAN CONSULATE

MAY 15 1924

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN.

Admitted

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. _____
FROM *YOKOHAMA*
S.S. *Siberia Maru*

J. J. Farrell
S.S. INSPECTOR

23396

29-14

VOID


INSPECTION CARD.

(Immigrants and Steerage Passengers)

Port of departure, *Kobe, Japan*, Date of departure, *MAY 16 1924*
Name of ship, *SIBERIA MARU*, *Yokohama*

Name of immigrant, *Mr. Shuzo Takeda*

Last Residence, *Hiroshima-ken*

Inspected and passed at Kobe, Japan. 	Passed at quarantine, Port of _____, U.S.	Passed by Immigration Bureau Port of _____
	(Date)	(Date)

(The following to be filled in by ship's surgeon or agent prior to or after embarkation.)

Ship's list or manifest *29* No. on ship's list or manifest *14*

Berth No.	Steamship Inspection	1st Day	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	To be punched by ship's surgeon at daily inspection.

Shuzo Takeda's visa, approved of at the American Consulate in Yokohama, Japan on May 15, 1924, so he could immigrate to America at age 14. He boarded the Siberia Maru and departed from Kobe harbor the next day. Kobe is much closer to Shuzo's hometown of Hiroshima than Yokohama (which is near Tokyo).