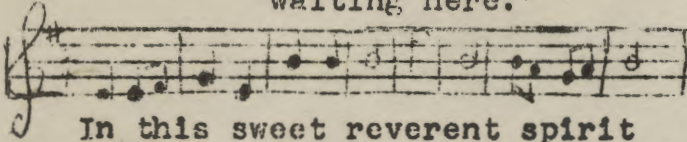




CHRISTMAS 1949

"Light, light the candle, let it glow!
Oh, oh, someone in the snow,
Look the way is clear, little child so dear,
Enter, Christmas Baby, we are waiting here."

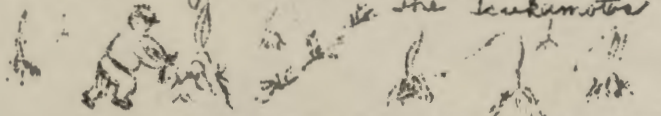


In this sweet reverent spirit the Christ Child has been welcomed into the hearts of men through the centuries. For several months now Christmas has been in our thoughts as packages were sent overseas--and gifts have been mailed early. In the school, plans were made for the Xmas party. In the church special rehearsals for the candle-light service and the Xmas play has kept us joyfully busy.

With only a few more days left till Christmas--we want to send word to you who have been the healing, comforting light throughout the years--that we are truly grateful for the everlasting arms that sustain and lift us. And we think of you as a friend that had a great influence in adding confidence, faith and gladness to our living today in Florin. Somehow God's love has been revealed to us--because our lives were touched by you. How can we help but shine now--when others had been so generous!

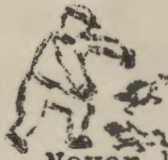
Triumphant days are ahead for more Americans with Japanese faces all over America. Even in Florin, a teacher has a class of wonderful third grade American children. It is significant that 20 years ago--this teacher graduated from the school when it was still a segregated school. History is being made and America is proud of the stride Florin has made in making Democracy ring true.

God Bless you, and Best Christmas Wishes to The Tsukamotos



The 30-year old grape vineyard went up in smoke. The faith of grape growers was tried for 3 years--now sadly--a revolutionary change is quietly taking place--. Unknown problems are stoicly met--and a new way of life must be made. Some are planting clover--wheat--corn--many will have a small berry patch--. We have kept 6 acres of our grapes. It is easier to "extract" them next year.

"Ojiisan"



A venerable octogenarian caught a gopher with his hands. Hatched over 80 chicks--only to lose all but 17 in a few weeks. Never knew whether it was a skunk, a dog or a thief. Visited the dentist for a new set of lower plate. His favorite hobby is raising tea. It means more than 7 months of loving care from seed to the table. When it rains, he cuts them to 1" lengths.

"Obaasan"

Spent summer hours stemming strawberries with other grandmas of the town. Made more than pin money. Gifts for Japan and gifts for her grandchildren. Success with a grand yellow dahlia. Peeled & dried persimmons. Head cook & housekeeper. Still the champion movie fan.



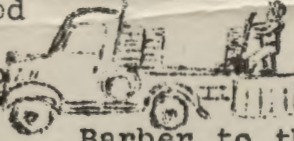
Nami-chan

Operates a weekly beauty parlor for the 4 Tsukamoto ladies. 3 have been kept in Toni curls! Devoted "Girl Friday" for the cause of fairplay--has helped mail hundreds of messages (almost ready to score). Helps make charts, flash cards for school.



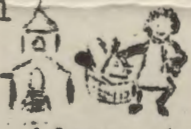
Al

Head strawberry salesman at Northern Calif. Farms Company. Barber to the Tsukamoto clan and the Methodist preachers.



Mary

A perpetual mad dash to meet the 3rd graders, loaded with charts, lesson plans, books & ideas--to find 24 bundles of electrified personalities!! Lovable darlings with streaks of mischief!! Emerge from this--still smiling--still grateful for the privilege of teaching in America. 1949 was a year of intensive training. Night classes & a stiff summer session at the State College. An unforgettable week with great philosophers at the Tahoe Philosophy Institute--as a lowly dean of women.



Marielle

Definitely a Junior miss--accepting more responsibilities at home & school. A good cook. Best pie baker. Two precious weeks at the Sacramento Girl Scout Camp. Highlighted by a hike to the top of Mount Zion. Glued to the radio, lost to the world!

