

NATIONAL CONFAB REVITALIZATION PLANNED

YBA MEET REPORTS

Realizing the immediate necessity of revitalizing the present organization of the National YBA of the American Buddhist Churches, 70 official delegates representing the ten relocation centers and seven "free zone" chapters assembled in Salt Lake City from May 20 to 24 for a special emergency meeting. The conference was presided over by Manabu Fukuda, national head from Poston, Arizona.

The five-day work conference was highlighted with special reports from the centers, "free zone" clubs, national officers, and reverends; discussions on relocation center problems and policies concerning the church, general Japanese American problems and organizational problems; and participation in the 9th Annual Intermountain District YBA Confab.

Mr. Sel Kimball, community organization expert of the WRA headquarters; Mr. Charles F. Ernst, Topaz project director; Rev. Fred Fertig, Protestant youth leader; and Mr. Hito Okada, National JACL Treasurer, added a lot to the meeting with their timely messages to the Bussei leaders.

Resolutions were directed to Mr. Dillon S. Meyer, WRA head, thanking and commending him for his excellent guidance and management in meeting the problems of the war emergency created by evacuation and his interest in our group, and informing him of the creation of a national office.

Topaz was fortunate in having 21 of its members present at this important gathering. For the benefit of those who were not able to attend the conference, a summarized report of the business completed at the meetings is contained in this issue.

The general report of the emergency conference is being prepared by Rev. K. Kumata and Tad Hirota of the headquarters staff at the present time.

NEW POLICIES TO BE INITIATED

Two new policies will be inaugurated next Sunday by the Young Peoples group, it was revealed today by Tad Hirota, president. Beginning on June 13th, Sunday services for the YBA will be held from 7 P.M. and offerings will be taken.

Up to this date, services for the Bussei have been held on Sunday mornings. However, with the change of the adult schedule and the coming of better weather, YBA religious meetings will be held in the evenings.

Offerings will be taken at every service from now on to raise funds for the national headquarters. Next week-end being "Student Scholarship Aid Days" in all the churches, all the receipts at Sunday's service will be turned over to that fund.

KOIZUMIS MOVE TO CLEVELAND

Eichi and Betty Koizumi departed from Topaz last Wednesday to relocate in Cleveland, Ohio, it was reported today. Both were members of the YBA and Eichi, especially, was very helpful in all Bussei activities.

He will be employed as a paint sprayer at the Martin Company in Cleveland, according to the Relocation Office. Betty will seek employment upon her arrival there.

A summarization of the business concluded at the recent national emergency conference in Salt Lake as reported by official delegates from Topaz follows:

1. Revitalization of the existing YBA organization under the American Buddhist Churches. (a) To emphasize that we are not a new or separate organization, but that we are furthering a movement such as the CYEL, NYEL, IDYEL, or Tri-State YL. (b) All decisions made at the conference were subject for approval by the YBA's in the relocation centers and free zone chapters. (c) The American Buddhist Churches is a sectarian sect, primarily Shinshu. It will be broad enough to welcome any group using the onem-butu. However, it doesn't restrict any group from uniting.

2. Rev. J. Goldwater's movement "The Buddhist Brotherhood of America": We arrived at a decision and reviewed it again. Our policies are broad enough to tolerate such a parallel program as Rev. Goldwater's movement. The two groups will not be at severance with each other.

3. Purposes of National Headquarters: (a) To coordinate Young Buddhist activities in relocation centers and free zones. (b) To collect and disseminate pertinent information of activities and programs. (c) To compile religious material. (d) To edit and publish booklets on the Teachings of Buddha. (e) To establish public relations with organizations and individuals. (f) To arrange cooperative buying of supplies. (g) To carry on research regarding the systemization of the organization. (h) To keep in touch
(Continued on Page 4)

BUSSEI LUN

PUBLISHED Semi-monthly at the
 OFFICIAL Central Utah Relocation Center
 Organ of the Topaz YBA

OUR YBA

Our YBA is made up of persons who formerly lived in the Bay Region cities of California, namely, San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda, San Mateo, Palo Alto, Eden Township, and Washington Township. We number about 450 according to the officially registered list, but there are probably about 300 more eligible members.

Before evacuation we belonged to the CYBL and we took a leading role in many of its activities. From time to time, many of our leaders were state officers. The successful sponsorship of the "Bussei Festivals" at the Golden Gate International Exposition in 1938 and 1939 were among our greatest achievements.

Many of our key leaders back home are now scattered all over the country as a result of the war emergencies. Nobuo Yurichi, Yukio Kawamoto and Akira Oshida are at Camp Savage; Dr. Duke Itatani is in the Manzanar center; Kiyono Wakayae is located in Heart Mountain; Dr. Tad Tani was in Minidoka but is now relocated in Chicago; Masao Murata is at Fort Riley; Kimi Higashiuchi is living in Denver; Dr. John Koyama is in Gila River; Frank Oda and Ben Murata are in Apache; and Jimmy Sugihara is teaching at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

Yet, we're carrying on with new leaders sharing the burden with some of the old stand-bys. But we have been fortunate 'cause we're blessed with the presence of our national director, Rev. Kumata. His advice and leadership has proven invaluable to us in our greatest hour of need.

Our YBA has grown rapidly in size and activities since its start here in Topaz, and it will continue to grow with the keen interest and active support the members have given to date in promoting the ideals of this religious youth organization.

editorial

STILL OUR BEST BET

This is a good time to shake badly needed clarity into our heads, and rise above the turgid flow of ill-tempered censure and calumny which all too many evacuees have been punning toward the plate every time the Citizens League came up to bat.

Somewhere along the road, the evacuee who didn't know better was first gounded by the evacuee who should know better into indicting the JACL on every conceivable count of a long list of accusations, ranging from responsibility for evacuation (as if the war and the Army had nothing to do with it) to the absence of caviar from the mess tables. The reasons for all the off-center potshots at the League may be traceable to the human impulse to seek and flog a handy scapegoat in moments of despair and frustration.

Whatever the reasons, it has assumed the proportions of a major sport. JACL leaders in other centers have either suffered physical assault, or have been threatened with same. Hardly a single inconvenience, irritation and bump in the evacuation itinerary has failed to yield its share of irrational gripes against the League.

Forgotten was the great good the JACL did in the hectic days immediately preceding our uprooting and dislocation, when steady streams of issei and nisei stormed the JACL offices, day and night, seeking counsel and a desperately needed sense of stability in the midst of instability. And evidently forgotten, too, is the still greater good the League can do in the future as the one nisei organization in a position to speak nationally for Japanese Americans.

This is not a time for carin, but a time to support and make the best possible use of the good things available to us. The JACL has, of course, never pretended omniscience. But it still stands and works as our best bet.

---Dyke Miyagawa

editorial

INNER QUALITY

Many of us can find agreement in saying that "Tempura" is indeed a tasty dish. Once in a while the enjoyment lies in guessing what is covered by the "koromo" and in the anticipation of finding your guess come true. But the "koromo" itself does not constitute the whole of the meal; the essence lies in what is underneath.

Just so, no matter how glittering and beautiful a trinket may look, it is still a trinket, a bauble, and may not be classed as a jewel unless the "innards" are of the same quality as the surface. In other words it must be "solid" or "sterling."

Superficial education, sophistication and all may pass for the "real McCoy" once in a while but cannot compare with true wisdom and humility, qualities which are endowed upon those with faith in the spiritual guidance of the Buddha.

---Rev. K. Kumata

CONFERENCE POSTSCRIPTS

Reverends present at the national YBA conference in Salt Lake City were Z. Okayama, S. Sanada and K. Kumata, Topaz; T. Terakawa, Minidoka; M. Kubose, Heart Mountain; Y. Iwanaga, Poston; G. Kono, Denson; N. Ishiura, Gila River; and C. Terakawa, host city.

Welcome visitors to this center following the confab included Noboru Ishitani, Tom Ozawa, Miyono Wakaye, George Sato and Rev. Kubose, Heart Mountain; Art Takemoto, Poston; Ted Oseto and Shizuo Nakashita, Jerome; and Rev. G. Kono, Denson.

Hideko Shinagawa, Sachi Tajima, Hisako Kuroiwa and June Nakayama of the local YBA aided national headquarters by taking minutes of the meetings. At present they are busy transcribing the notes.

TEACHERS TRAINING CLASSES STARTED

Training classes for the Buddhist Sunday School teachers are being held on every Thursday, evening of the month except the last one at Rec. Hall #33 from 7:30 P.M., it was revealed today.

Reverends S. Sanada and T. Kashima are conducting the classes. Those Busseis interested in this training are invited to attend.

The last Thursday night of each month is set aside so the teachers can draft a suitable program for the Sunday Schools for the ensuing month.

ARE YOU REGISTERED?

All Busseis who have not officially registered by purchasing a membership card as yet are urged to do so as soon as possible at the Buddhist headquarters at Rec. Hall #33. Officially registered members will have first consideration at the affairs being scheduled.

BUSSEIS URGED TO BACK SCHOLARSHIP FUND DRIVE

All YBA members are urged to support the showings of this week's film, "SUZZ", starring Tyrone Power, Loretta Young and Annabella, at various dining halls as the proceeds will be donated to the Student Aid Scholarship Fund. Through the courtesy of the Co-op, the high senior class will sponsor these presentations with David Iino and Kiyochi Kamekawa as chairmen.

These showings will be held nightly from 7:30 P.M. at the following locations: Monday, #16; Tuesday, #6; Wednesday, #27; Thursday, #33; Friday, #3; and Saturday at either #30 or #37.

The Topaz Student Aid Fund Committee is planning a series of different types of benefits to raise enough money to attain its \$2,000 goal. All groups in the center are behind this movement to aid the twenty most qualified students of the first graduating class of the local high school further their education in institutions of higher learnings.

Already over \$200 have been raised through various sources and next Saturday and Sunday the church groups will keep the ball rolling by holding "Student Aid Fund Days". Offerings taken in at all the services next week end will be turned over to this fund.

Among the projects being planned to aid this cause are Block 2 entertainment, community carnival, tag day, Girl Reserves lunch and pie sales, auction of novelties by Industrial Art Department, high school dramas, letters to relocated residents and students, and more movies by the Co-op.

RELOCATION

Those planning to relocate in the near future should plan to attend one of the Relocation Forums being sponsored on Thursday nights at Dining Hall #32 by the Community Services Division. The forums start at 8 P.M.

Henry Tani is the chairman and two different persons speak on all phases of the relocation program at these meetings. The talks are followed by a question and answer period.

BISHOP BETTER

Following a major operation Wednesday night, Bishop R. Matukaga, head of the American Buddhist Churches, is convalescing in the hospital and feeling a little better, it was disclosed today by Rev. Z. Okayama. He has been ill for some time and the operation was necessitated by his weakening condition. Blood transfusions were given to him by a number of YBA members prior to the operation.

KNOW YOUR MEMBERS

MIKE HARUYAMA, 37-7-C, formerly of Alameda, co-chairman of Church Board of Directors, YBA coordinator, head of City Council, first class politician and card shark.

JUNE NAKAYAMA, 19-8-E, ex-S.F. gal, winner of many oratorical contests, YBA forensic chairman, secretary in Mr. Lorne Bell's office, able speaker and secretary.

VERNON ICHISAKA, 37-1-E, hails from Washington Township, Board member, YBA research chairman, JAFL leader, agricultural expert, civic worker and "behind-the-scenes" man.

SUMIKO KIDO, 22-9-B, came from Oakland, capable Sunday School teacher, member education department, co-operative in Bussei activities and likeable tutor.

HASUJI FUJIE, 2-1-D, Berkeleyan, co-chairman of the Board of Directors, former CYCL proxy, active city councilman, married, key church leader and public welfare-minded person.

CONFAB SUMMARY CONTINUED

with the WRA and participation in relocation.

4. Personnel of National Headquarters: (a) To have a temporary headquarters at Topaz with Rev. Kumata as the Director of the Young Buddhist Association. (b) To establish a permanent headquarters in a free zone area as soon as practical. (c) To have one other person to start with Rev. Kumata, more if necessary and feasible. The Executive Secretary will be selected by Rev. Kumata during his tour, contacting those on the recommended list.

5. Finance: (a) To have the National YBA Treasurer submit an itemized report. (b) To have Rev. Kumata make a tour of all the Centers and Free Zone chapters to explain the National YBA movement; each group to be assessed \$35 to defray expenses of his trip. (c) To get Bishop Matsukage to direct introductory letters to the various Issei leaders and Reverends of the churches in the Centers and Free Zones regarding Rev. Kumata and his mission. (d) Each Center is to raise \$300 to take care of the expenses of headquarters for the initial 6-month period; each Free Zone chapter is to canvass its community for as much financial aid as possible.

6. Center program: (a) Utilize the reports of the various Centers such as setting up a paid YBA Office, staffed with as many people as possible. (b) Acceptance of Rev. Kumata's tour as the initial project of headquarters' program. (c) Centralization of all future programs of the Centers. (d) Compilation of an accurate list of members; 1, in case of relocation to record name, date, and address of such and type of employment or school name.

7. Free Zone chapter program: (a) Survey of all the chapters in the Free Zones, listing the names and addresses of the officers so that transfer could be effected and cordial welcome be given to those coming into such areas. (b) Participate in public relations work. (c) Assist in relocation to whatever degree possible. (d) To have a local field secretary as soon as it is possible. (e) To take a leading part in the creation of new chapters or sub-chapters.

8. Constitution to be formed: (a) To have one representative to the National Board from each recognized YBA in the Centers, specifically 13; the discretion to admit others will be empowered to the Board. (b) To have one representative from each recognized District or League in the Free Zone areas, namely, Intermountain, Tri-State, and New York; discretion up to the Board for admittance of new areas. (c) Officers of the National Board will be President, Vice-president, and Treasurer, elective among the Board members by the Board members. If a Board member is elected to one of the three offices, his election will not be considered a vacancy for that Center or Free Zone District. Because our proposed plan has not been approved, the present existing Board shall remain in office until approved and put into effect. (d) The Charter will be drawn up by the Tule Lake chapter.

9. Former leaders: There is a need for former leaders' participation in the local Young Buddhist Associations. Older members should be encouraged to participate in YBA programs.

10. References: (a) Have a centralized office where research and improvement work can be carried on; one way by which the YBA can be revitalized. (b) The Topaz Center has an Inter-Faith organization made up of all the ministers of the various religious faiths which coordinates buying of supplies, etc., sharing expenses, and helping to solve each other's problems. (c) Boston

#3 has a loose leaf Gatha Book; good idea to have this type of song book. (d) Arkansas has a leadership training program, alternating with the Satra classes, preparing teachers as well as leaders. (e) Demarkation of young people's Sunday School under high school age and over high school age. Core of the organizations localize Bussei activities into blocks where leadership training can add to the practical experience. (f) To make, for instance, committee and assign to supply the room where it is one source of expense. (g) To work in harmony with the Issei groups; we need their assistance.

11. Resolutions proposed: (a) To Dillon S. Hayes of the National YBA, thanking and commending him for his excellent guidance and management in solving the problems of the emergency agency created by evacuation and his interest in our group, and informing him of the creation of a national headquarters and pleading our support in regards to relocation. (b) To the National Student Relocation Council, commending and gratefully acknowledging the manner in which it is carrying on its program and considering members of our faith for various scholarships. (c) To the War Department, Chaplain Corps, requesting immediate consideration to accept the voluntary enlistment of a Buddhist minister to serve as a chaplain for the Nisei combat unit. (d) to the Buddhist

(Continued on Page 5)

CABINET MEETING SET WEDNESDAY

An important meeting of the YBA executive board will be held this Wednesday night at the Buddhist Church, starting at 7:30 P.M. It was announced today by Akiko Ota, secretary. All delegates to the recent national conference are asked to attend also.

CONFERENCE SUMMARY CONCLUDED

(Continued from Page 4)

Brotherhood of America, in care of Rev. J. Goldwater, pledging our cooperation in the furtherance of that group's program for our mutual benefit.

12. Letters: (a) To the WRA headquarters, recommending the pushing of family and small group relocation; urging use of YBA members qualified to work in relocation offices; informing them of temporary place of headquarters and the name of our director; asking for aid in regards to church properties on Pacific Coast; and giving future plans for setting up of offices. (b) To the National JACL, commending and acknowledging the good the League is doing for the benefit of all Japanese Americans and their parents, and giving the national officers a vote of confidence.

13. Recognition: Through the efforts of Tad Hirota and Rev. Kumata, we have the understanding of the government agencies in our church program, which resulted in the revitalizing of many chapters in the Free Zones; this understanding was brought about largely through cooperation of the JACL.

14. Rev. Fred Fertig recognizes the worldliness of the Buddhist religion and its contributions. America is the melting pot of all cultures. He pointed out a six-point program which seeks to at once gain favorable recognition instead of distrust of American Buddhism, and to make Buddhism a religious contribution to American civilization and thus, world civilization. The six points follow: (1) The Bussei must early come to a clear knowledge and recognition of the values of their religion. (2) The Bussei should take pride in their faith. (3) The Bussei should as rapidly as possible, with the help

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE ENDS VERY SUCCESSFULLY

The Topaz YBA membership drive officially ends today and according to Hide Kawahara, club treasurer and chairman of the campaign, it has been very successful with over 450 registering as members. The drive was carefully planned by the chairman and he received good



cooperation from key Busseis in each city block in regards to the sales of club membership cards.

Although the final check up has not been made, it is probable that the total registered will exceed the 500 mark. The drive has ended, but those who have not signed up as yet will be able to do so at the Buddhist headquarters in Ferrell #33.

The YBA executive board will meet this Wednesday night to map out a program for the next six weeks. All Busseis will be required to have membership cards to participate in the many activities which will be scheduled. Also, copies of the "Bussei Life" will be passed out to registered members only beginning today.

Special projects being planned are benefits for the "Student Aid Fund" and national assessment; club annual; leadership training classes; religious study classes; relocation forums; and public relations work. Details about these projects will be announced in the next issue of this paper.

The editorial "Will Our Best Bet" was written by Dyke Miyagawa, formerly of Seattle, while he was in the Minidoka Relocation Center. At the present time, he is in Salt Lake City as the newest addition to the "Pacific Critic" staff. Dyke is an outstanding labor-leader and liberal, and at one time, he was head of the Seaman's Union in the Pacific Northwest.

This is the third issue of the "Bussei Life" and the staff believes it is improving in coverage and quality. With Michi Keizumi gone to Cleveland, there is a need for a staff artist. Any one interested in this type of work should contact Hideko Shinagawa at 42-10-G.

Our thanks and appreciation go to the Topaz Times staff for the use of their equipment. Without their cooperation, this paper would not be possible.

of Nisei priests and Issei priests who choose to stay in the United States, work to disentangle Buddhism from any Shintoism or pro-Japanese elements. (4) The Bussei should strive seriously towards their own assimilation into American social, economic and political life. (5) The Bussei should learn and practice tolerance towards other faiths. (6) The Bussei need to develop a leadership and then a membership—that is informed in Buddhism, and can then help make Buddhism and its knowledge of Oriental culture and art an integral part of American and Western civilization.



"Relocation is the only thing that could promise the Nisei a chance in post-war America, it seems, but it would also disperse the Busseis throughout a wide area without the benefit of their religion. I believe plans should be formulated to tie the Young Buddhists together—a centralized clearing house from which information, news and religious matter could be sent out for a moderate sum."

-Barry Sakai
Rohrer YBA Pres.

IT'S ARMORED

Snap-backs on the national Hussein conference in Salt Lake City.....

FLASH! Several of the local delegates were seen looking in a pawn shop window, particularly at those rings marked \$2.95! Can it mean happy days for them?

--due to cautions by Tad Hirota, delegates were told to go about in small groups, no more than 3 or 4, so every known couple had a field day by saying to the third or fourth party, "Now, we better split up, you know what Tad said.".....

--they say clothes makes a man--a certain Mr. Miniver had a new outfit donated by all the boys. Can't imagine why boys should chip in to outfit another boy--can you?.....

--on certain mornings of the confab boy delegates were seen yawning throughout the meetings--reason for this: 9 boys slept in two adjoining rooms and only two actually got any rest.....

--June Nakayama preferred the dances in Topaz to the big ball at the conference; she came home earlier than the rest, too. Can it be that she prefers staying at home?.....

--the wolf of the confab was your Mayor of Topaz, Mike Maruyama--he gave a demonstration of wolfing in one easy lesson at the mass gathering of the 9th Annual Intermountain YBA Conference. "wolfing is--censored--".....

--Eiichi Sato--true to the girl he left behind--withdrew his name from the list of those seeking blind dates--you members must all meet his wife, Dora, and baby, Dennis.... Harry Ushijima, true, too, but to who????.....

--delegates' happy hunting ground was Star Theater at 30¢ a person at night. The picture playing was "Mrs. Miniver". Ask Noboru Hanyu or any of the others.....

--Akiko Ota, the quiet girl, was never seen without an escort. One can

YOUNG PEOPLES' SERVICE

Sunday, June 6, 1943

11:30 A.M.

Chairman: Hideo Kawahara

Organist: Hideko Shinagawa

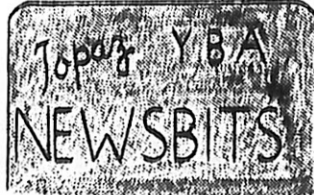
- 1. Prelude Organ Solo
- 2. Kikyo-mon Congregation
- 3. Oath: "Shin-shu Shu-ka Congregation
- 4. Offering of Incense
Y.B.A. Representative Masako Neishi
- 5. Sermon Rev. S. Sanada
- 7. Meditation Congregation
- 8. Nembutsu
- 9. Announcement
Chairman: Tad Hirota
- 10. Postlude Organ Solo

never tell what a little freedom will do to a person, eh?.....

--our Dr. delegate had a few happy days with a certain Yo "Joraga Hill" from Heart Mountain in S.L.C. On the same day our delegates left for Topaz, she headed for Tulsa, Oklahoma; she must have been "heart-broken". What a blind date can do for a fellow....lucky Doc; he never used the phone in his own room but went to the next room to call her. Once he called three times in about 1½ hours. He even taught her how to bowl and he also saw Mrs. Miniver.. She's cute boys!.....

--Yukino "Coconut Grove" Takemoto claimed a most wonderful time at that dinner-dance rendezvous. Could it be that the food was so delicious, or was it because she had such a likeable companion?.....

--Oh, yes! Sachi Tajima saw "Mrs. Miniver", too... --P.S. All the fun was enjoyed in the evenings and after the confab was over. --P.S.S. Ask the fellow delegates about the girl named Mary of the Ogden YBA. That's thirty today!



Recuperating in the city hospital following an appendicitis operation last Friday afternoon is Hiroshi Neishi, one of our delegates to the confab in Salt Lake City.

Yuk Kawahara, one of the greatest of basketball players to ever rise out of the ranks of the Nisei, is currently visiting his family here. He has been working in Denver in a civil service position. Yuk will bring his brother, Effie, who is also a top notch hoopster, back to Denver with him. They're leaving Tuesday.

A consistent visitor to this center is Kaz Oka of Ely, Nevada. He's formerly of Oakland and is now a house guest of the Hirota family. Kaz is a volunteer for the nisei combat unit and is awaiting his call. He's planning to leave for home tomorrow.

YBA members are reminded not to forget that June 20 is Father's Day.