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Nisei and Unions

Editorial

The nisei labor outlook broadens with each succeeding day as evidenced by the events as reported by both labor union fronts.

In Stockton, Calif., the CIO made headlines as the hearing at Local 6 of Workers' Defense Fund was adjourned session as a rebel group within the local repudiated a recent anti-hbias pledge as pertaining to Japanese Americans and their work membership in the union.

Warehouse workers who have signed pledges they are willing to work for are particularly anxious as asked recently at their places of work to affix their signatures to a statement that they had signed the pledges under duress.

In Denver the AFL Teamsters Union is gaining strength rapidly and due to the fact that the first nisei union as the produce row finds an almost hundred per cent nisei population with at least a 75 per cent AFL membership acknowledged. Favorable reports on the nisei cooperation are going back to the western AFL Teamsters headquarters in San Francisco and can be seen as an opening wedge into other unions for the nisei in the post-war period.

All indications point toward the fact that the unions will be the saving factor in the lives of the laboring nisei in near future when work opportunity comes again. Patriotism and racial prejudices intensify.

The local packing sheds will be going full blast in a few weeks according to the report after a meeting of the shippers and shed owners and seasonal workers will be given a special initiation fee rate according to local AFL Teamsters.

In Kamloops, B. C., Canada, Japanese workers who make up 95 per cent of the employees at the Rosette Lumber Mill, were recently organized into the International Woodworkers of America (CIO) according to the report by the "New Canadian" of Kalso, B. C.

Assisting the CIO organizer in that district was Masa Miyazawa, son of Miyazawa, long-time president of Camp and Mill Workers Union, a Japanese local on the Canadian West Coast.

Organization effort is to be carried to the numerous mills in the district and to the north where altogether 1,000 Japanese workers are employed.

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BEARS LOSE FIRST MAJOR ENCOUNTER

The Bear baseball team tied into a close, interesting game for six innings with the strong Fitzsimons Hospital team at the Fitzsimons Hospital Sunday but the lack of competent pitching proved too much and the soldiers pulled ahead 12-8.

Harry Arikli, catcher; Chuck Nakachi, shortstop, and "Mah Jong" Yoshimura, second, of the 100th Infantry, with Lanky Lander Ito at first, starred in the field for the Bears, but the lack of punch at bat nullified the gains.

The game was wild but interesting as the Bear pitchers walked 12 opponents, while the Fitzsimons players fell victim to the alert fielding plays and lost five runners in the first two innings.

Following players saw action:

Tosh Nishimura, Tom Matayoshi, Harry Ukelele, Jim Hanamura, Chuck Nakachi, Lander Ito, Duck Mikami, Shin Nakayama, "May Jones" Yoshimura, Hiro Higashi, Jim Ueda, Harry Arikli, Hank Takahashi, George Kawamura.

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