







# The Social Wheel

**SPOKANE VISITOR...** Here on a combined pleasure and business trip is Mr. Roy Kurimura of Spokane. Mr. Kurimura relocated to Spokane during the war.

**VISIT FRIENDS...** Miss Sue Okubo, former Seattleite who relocated to Chicago, Ill., was visiting her friends here the past week.

**FOURTH BIRTHDAY...** Aileen Mori, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William T. Mori, 459 13th Ave., celebrated her fourth birthday on Wed., June 29, in the Broadway nursery school.

**ENGAGEMENT TOLD...** M. R. and Mrs. Y. Sakuma, 1523 E. Spruce, wish to announce the engagement of their daughter, Misao, to Mr. Sachio Ikeda, son of Mr. and Mrs. Umejiro Ikeda, 303 W. Pacific, Spokane, Wash.

Mr. Ikeda lived in Tacoma, Wash., prior to the war, where he was active in the Bussel circle. The wedding will be in the fall.

**FOUR CANDLES...** Master David Shioji, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hoo Shioji, 1723 12th Ave., was joined by the nursery school children in celebrating his fourth birthday last Tuesday, July 6, in the Broadway nursery school. The birthday cake was decorated with two American flags and four giant firecracker candles.

**FAREWELL PARTY...** A surprise farewell get-together was given last July 2 for the Misses Mayko and Gladys Tamura by Lillian Kato and Mary Morimoto in their residence. Those present besides the honored guests were Mrs. Sei Fujiwara, Miss Sukey Takasaki and Mr. George Kato from Walla Walla, and the Misses Fumi Yoshida, Edna Mayeda, Kimi Jinguji, and Sumi Fukel. Unable to attend were Misses Laura Nakamura and Toshi and Mich Akagi.

The guests left for New York City yesterday (Friday) to join their sister.

**HIROSHIMA-BOUND...** Stopping here this week en route to the city of Hiroshima on an atomic energy research assignment, was Dr. Wataru Sutow of Los Angeles, Calif. Dr. Sutow flew today (Saturday) via Anchorage, Alaska, towards Hiroshima.

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## ON RELIGION:

### Why Be A Buddhist?

by Ken Morrison

(Editor's note: Opinions expressed by the writer are his own and not necessarily those of this newspaper.)

Why be a Buddhist, aside from the facts that you were brought up as such by your parents, and Lotus Y. B. A. offers a little more on the social and athletic side than other Nisei organizations? Perhaps you have considered Christianity, the religion of the majority of people living in the United States. The majority does not necessarily have to be right, however.

All the teachings of Christ governing human relations were taught by Sakayamuni Buddha, 500 years before the birth of Christ. Buddhism in addition gives us the law of Karma, cause and effect, which largely governs our lives. Buddhism tells us that all things are impermanent, never the same from instant to instant, excepting the Buddha. Buddhism rests upon the Four Noble Truths of being, namely:

- First, There is sorrow
- Second, There is a cause for sorrow; ignorance
- Third, There is a way to destroy sorrow
- Fourth, The way which leads to the cessation of sorrow is the Noble Eightfold Path.

1. Highest Understanding
2. Highest Mindfulness
3. Highest Speech
4. Highest Action
5. Highest Livelihood
6. Highest Endeavor
7. Highest Recollectionness
8. Highest Meditation

The big objection to Buddhism by many is what they consider the "worshipping of an idol". The figure of Amida Buddha in Shinshu can be likened unto the figure of the Virgin Mary in the Catholic religion. The figure, like our flag, is respected for what it stands for, but not worshiped as having powers of its own.

A Nisei Christian friend of mine states his big objection to Buddhism as being the worship of a

man. Christ, he says, proved by certain acts that he was the son of God, while in Buddhism one is worshipping the defied man Buddha. Buddhism is not a religion of proof by miracles, but by application of the teachings. As Shinshu Buddhists, we do not worship a man or an idol, but pay respects to Amida Buddha, the spiritual form of Sakayamuni Buddha, who attained the state of supreme enlightenment known as Buddhahood. We believe that the assurance of our salvation comes through His Boundless Love and the Name Namu Amida Butsu.

According to the word of Buddha as found in the Amitayur-Dhyana Sutra, on which Shinshu is based, "Although there be anyone who has committed many evil deeds, having uttered the formula 'Namu Amida Butsu' he will be freed from the sins which would otherwise involve him in births and deaths (reincarnation) for fifty millions of kalpas."

Different sects of Christianity will tell you that one may or may not do certain things; dance, play cards, drink, smoke, go to movies, for instance. Buddhism does not hold you down to any strict way of living; you are merely expected not to indulge in that which is harmful to you, following the law of cause and effect.

As Nisei, you should appreciate the connections between Japanese history and Buddhism. Buddhism has been the very soul of Japanese life since its introduction from Korea by Shotoku Taishi in 522 A.D. Christian missionaries to Japan are concerned with aiding their country and converting people to their ideas of thinking. Buddhism has always been concerned with the welfare of Japan and its people. Japan's culture, art, reading and writing were all introduced by Buddhist priests. The kana, which simplify so much the kanji introduced earlier, was the invention of Kobo Daishi, founder of Shingon Buddhism.

Saint Nichiren, Buddhism's fiery prophet and founder of Nichiren-shu, said, "I will be the rock of Japan, I will be the pillar of Japan, I will be the eye of Japan!" So Buddhism in America is the rock, pillar and eye of the Nisei.

Each mind is pressed, and open every ear, to hear new tidings, though they no way joy us. —Fairfax.

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### Methodist to Hear Honolulu Pastor

The Rev. Harry Shigeo Komuro, once a resident of Seattle, now a pastor of the Harris Memorial Methodist church in Honolulu, will speak on "Young Americans" at the 11 a.m. service this Sunday, July 11, in the Seattle Japanese Methodist church.

Now attending the Western Jurisdictional Conference being held in the First Methodist church here, Reverend Komuro, president of the Honolulu Ministerial Union, was elected special delegate representing the all-Hawaiian conference.

Reverend Komuro, who attended Broadway high school in Seattle, was graduated by Wesleyan college and Drew university. After receiving his A.B., M.A. and B.D. degrees, he became professor of English literature at Doshisha university in Kyoto and stayed in Japan for several years. Later, he was appointed pastor of the Honolulu church. The former Seattleite is planning to take a special course at Columbia university in New York City after he concludes his summer speaking tour of the San Francisco and Los Angeles area. Everyone is welcome to hear Reverend Komuro's talk.

### Buddhist Services

Young people's services will be held this Sunday, July 11 at the Queen Anne cemetery instead of the Buddhist temple. The rites, which will be the annual "hakameiri", will start at 11 a.m. Everyone planning to attend the services is asked to meet in front of the temple before 10:30 a.m.

### Cathay Picnic

Second annual American Legion Post 186, Cathay Post, picnic will be on Sunday, July 25, at Gaffney's Grove at Lake Wilderness, it was announced today.

The picnic, which is open to Chinese and Japanese Americans, will include such recreation as swimming, canoeing, skating, tennis, softball and dancing. The drinks will be supplied by Cathay Post at no charge, according to David Woo, publicity director.

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## Church Notices

**BAPTIST**  
9:45 a.m.—Sunday School.  
10 a.m.—Issei worship service.  
11:15 a.m.—Guest speaker will be the Rev. J. Fujimori, Nisei minister of the Japanese Methodist church in Livingston, Calif. Rev. Fujimori was in Manzanar relocation center during the war.  
7:30 pm.—BYF.  
Okazaki classes from 8 to 9 p.m. on Mondays.  
**BUDDHIST**  
10:00 a.m.—Kindergarten Class. Class.  
**CONGREGATIONAL**  
10 a.m.—Sunday School for nursery, beginners, kindergarten, primary, junior and intermediate.  
10 a.m.—Issei worship service.  
11 a.m.—Nisei worship service.  
**MARYKNOLL**  
9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.—Low Mass. Benediction will be held following 10:30 Mass.  
**METHODIST**  
10 a.m.—Sunday Church School. Helen May Smith, superintendent.  
10 a.m.—Japanese Service.  
11 a.m.—Nisei Service.  
**NICHIREN BUDDHIST CHURCH**  
10 a.m.—Kindergarten children and juniors service.  
11 a.m.—Young people's service in English.  
7 p.m.—Japanese Service.

**PREBYTERIAN**  
9:15 to 9:30 a.m.—Teacher's prayer service.  
9:30 to 10:45 a.m.—Sunday school for beginners, primaries, juniors and intermediates.  
11 a.m.—The Rev. U. G. Murphy will speak on "Which Way Nisei?" this Sunday, July 11.

**ST. PETER'S**  
9 a.m.—Issei Holy Communion Rev. G. Shoji  
11 a.m.—Sunday School, Miss Gladys Gray.  
11 a.m.—Nisei Worship Service.  
7:30 pm.—Fri-night YPF Meeting.

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