

# HOME AND FAMILY LIFE

Unlike the Chinese whose immigration was stopped in 1882 before women in any numbers had arrived, the Japanese immigration included a substantial flow of women before its termination in 1924. The establishment of families greatly aided the adjustment to American society. Because arranged marriages were the customary marital practice in Japan, it was relatively easy for single immigrant males to return to Japan to find a bride, or to have one selected through a "picture bride" arrangement. The first home of a young couple was often a single room in a hotel or apartment house with a gas burner for a kitchen, and some families got their start in back-of-the-shop living quarters. But most moved toward middle-class homes. The relatively rapid diffusion of Japanese minority residences may be seen in the three maps below.



Photo by Robert G. Schuchman for the Seattle Times, 1924



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